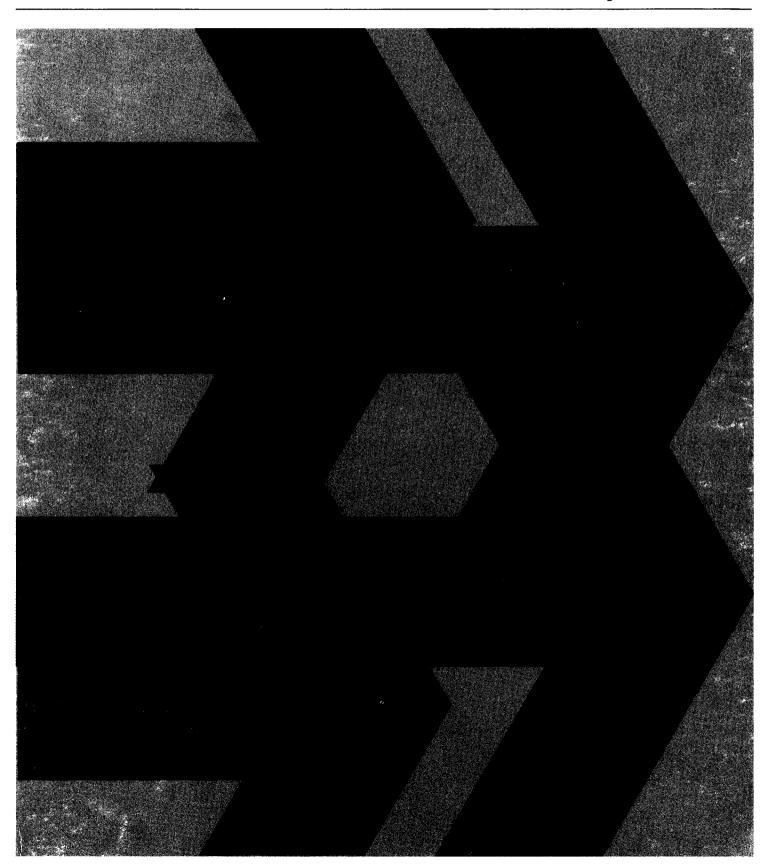
HEWLETT PACKARD COMPUTER CURRICULUM

### **COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY SERIES**

## **ELECTRIC AND MAGNETIC FIELDS**

by John R. Merrill



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### **ELECTRIC AND MAGNETIC FIELDS**

by JOHN R. MERRILL

Dartmouth College

Hanover, New Hampshire

Exercises and Solutions Prepared With Gregory P. Hughes, Dartmouth College

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY 11000 WOLFE ROAD CUPERTINO, CALIFORNIA 95014

HP 5951-5667 Printed: April 1974

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HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Cupertino, California
Printed in the U.S.A.

The Hewlett-Packard Computer Curriculum Series represents the published results of a Curriculum Development project sponsored by the Data Systems Division of Hewlett-Packard Company. This project is under the directorship of Jean H. Danver.

This material is designed to be used with any Hewlett-Packard system with the BASIC programming language such as the 9830A, Educational BASIC, and the 2000 and 3000 series systems.

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#### **PREFACE**

This unit shows you ways in which the computer can extend your knowledge and understanding of introductory electricity and magnetism. The unit presents numerical solutions for field lines and equipotentials. The solutions are easy to understand and yet include solutions to many problems which can't be handled by analytic methods. The emphasis in the unit will be on ways the computer can extend the electricity and magnetism you understand. The unit assumes some knowledge of introductory e and m, specifically the fields for simple charge distributions.

Your instructor can assign chapters and exercises out of this unit in much the same way as out of a textbook. Lectures on the material may be presented, but you should be able to understand the material without lectures. The harder exercises can be used as the basis of projects if your instructor wishes.

Each chapter in the unit starts with a brief discussion of the physics discussed in the chapter and then moves on to an explanation of the numerical procedure used with the computer. Exercises follow with one exercise completely worked out in the text so that you can see what a sample solution looks like. This sample exercise is sometimes a problem for which the answer is already known and therefore provides an extra check on the computer method. Some exercises are marked with asterisks. One asterisk means the exercise is fairly demanding while two asterisks indicates a very challenging problem. Numerical methods will not be discussed much in the text; there is a section in the appendix which discusses the half-step integration used.

Throughout the booklet normalized or natural units will be used. The units have the advantage that the numbers being calculated stay near 1; therefore rarely getting too small or too large for the computer. Natural units are often used in e and m; the units have the effect of setting  $1/(4\pi\epsilon_0)$  and  $\mu_0/(4\pi)$  all equal to one.

Often graphical output is useful. If you have a plotter or a CRT terminal available, fine. If not, terminal plotting (using the teletype to plot a graph) can be helpful. The appendix gives a program to convert printing programs (programs which type out lists of numbers) to programs which plot on the terminal. This terminal plotting will be used several times in the unit to give you several examples.

John Merrill Tallahassee, Florida

This unit was written while the author was on the faculty of the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire. John Merrill has used computers to support his classwork and research since joining the Dartmouth faculty in 1966. During the period of 1970-72 he was part of a team of professors who developed computer uses for the classroom in engineering, mathematics and physics under the auspices of NSF funded project COEXIST.

John has written many journal acticles on specific uses of computers in physics teaching, particularly for the two main physics teaching journals, *The Physics Teacher* and *The American Journal of Physics*. He has written several booklets on computer use in physics teaching including another unit in the Hewlett-Packard series, *Quantum Mechanics*. John is also the

author of the book, *Computers in Physics*, soon to be published by Houghton-Miffin Company. He is now the Director of the Center for Educational Design at Florida State University.

Special credits go to Gregory Hughes, a recent PhD in physics from Dartmouth, who helped develop the exercises and Christine Doerr, who copyedited the manuscript.

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### **CHAPTER ONE: ELECTROSTATICS**

#### INTRODUCTION

Electrostatics introduces the basic concept of fields, a concept used widely in electricity and magnetism (e & m) as well as in other areas of physics. The purpose of this chapter is to deepen your understanding of fields by using the computer to map electrostatic fields in various ways. You will map electrostatic patterns both by using the electrostatic potential and by using the electrostatic field itself.

#### THE ELECTROSTATIC FIELD, $\vec{E}(\vec{r})$

A field is a way to visualize a vector whose magnitude and direction vary as you move around space. Consider the Coulomb force,  $\vec{F}_{21}$ , on a charge,  $q_2$ , due to a charge,  $q_1$ , a distance,  $\vec{r}$ , away,

$$\vec{F}_{21} = k_0 \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2} \left( \frac{\vec{r}}{r} \right)$$
 (1)

where  $r = |\vec{r}|$  and  $k_0$  defines the units.  $k_0 = 1/4\pi\epsilon_0 = 9x10^9$  in mks units;  $k_0 = 1$  in Gaussian (cgs) units. This force means that  $q_1$  reaches out over the distance,  $\vec{r}$ , in order to create the force felt by  $q_2$ . Originally, the electrostatic field,  $\vec{E}$ , was introduced into physics so that  $q_2$  would be interacting with something (namely, the  $\vec{E}$  field) right where  $q_2$  was. The idea is that  $q_1$  produces an  $\vec{E}$  field everywhere, and that  $q_2$  interacts with the  $\vec{E}$  field at  $q_2$ 's position.

The  $\overrightarrow{E}$  field turns out to be a very convenient way to handle electrostatics problems because you can separate the effects of  $q_1$ , the so-called source charge, from the effects of the field upon  $q_2$ . You can separate each problem into a part dealing with what field is produced by the source charges and another separate part dealing with the behavior of other charges placed in that field.

The electrostatic field at some point,  $\vec{r} = (x,y,z)$ , is defined as the force per unit charge on a test charge,  $q_2$ , placed at  $\vec{r}$ .

$$\overrightarrow{E(r)} = \frac{\overrightarrow{F(r)}}{G_2} \tag{2}$$

where  $\overrightarrow{F}(\overrightarrow{r})$  is the force felt by  $q_2$  at the point  $\overrightarrow{r}$ .

Equations for the electrostatic field,  $\vec{E}$ , for simple kinds of source charges are derived in regular textbooks. A short table of the fields looks like the following:

Charge Distribution	→ E Field	
Single Point Charge	k <sub>o</sub> q/r² (r/r)	
Single Line Charge	k <sub>o</sub> λ/r (r/r)	

 $\lambda =$ the line charge density

The total electrostatic field due to some set of source charges is just the (vector) sum of the fields due to each source charge individually.

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Show that the force experienced by a test charge,  $q_2$ , placed at the point  $\vec{r}$  is the Coulomb force when the source charge is a point charge.

#### THE ELECTROSTATIC POTENTIAL, V(r)

Another useful concept in electrostatics is the electrostatic potential,  $V(\vec{r})$ . You can define or introduce the potential in several different ways:

1. When the source charge distribution does not extend to  $\infty$ , the potential can be defined as the work per unit charge done to bring a test charge,  $q_2$ , from infinite separation to the point,  $\vec{r}$ .

The work done by a force  $\overrightarrow{F}$  between  $\overrightarrow{r_1}$  and  $\overrightarrow{r_2}$  is defined as  $\int_1^{r_2} \overrightarrow{F} \cdot d\ell$ , so the potential is

$$V(\vec{r}) \equiv q \int_{\infty}^{\vec{r}} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{\ell} = -q \int_{\vec{r}}^{\infty} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{\ell}$$
 (3)

Even when the source charge distribution does extend to infinity, some convenient position,  $\vec{r}_0$ , can be chosen, and potentials can be measured from that point.

$$V(\vec{r}) \equiv q \int_{\vec{r}_0}^{\vec{r}} \vec{E} \cdot \vec{d\ell}$$
 (4)

2. The potential can also be introduced from its other relationship to the field,  $\overrightarrow{E}$ , namely

$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) \equiv -\text{grad}(V(\vec{r})) \tag{5}$$

The gradient, called grad, is just a vector derivative.

These two definitions of potential are essentially equivalent. We will not do much with the second definition for the potential,  $V(\vec{r})$ , but it is the more general of the two forms. This second definition is also the one used most in upper levels of e & m study. One very useful result of this second definition is that the electrostatic field,  $\vec{E}(\vec{r})$ , at the point,  $\vec{r}$ , points in the direction of steepest decrease of the electrostatic potential,  $V(\vec{r})$ , at that point  $\vec{r}$ . The force on a test charge at  $\vec{r}$  always point directly down the potential hill.

The first definition points out most clearly that, unlike the  $\overrightarrow{E}$  field, which is a vector function of position, the electrostatic potential,  $V(\overrightarrow{r})$ , is a scalar function of position.  $\overrightarrow{E}(\overrightarrow{r})$  has both magnitude and direction at each point,  $\overrightarrow{r}$ , whereas the potential,  $V(\overrightarrow{r})$ , has only a value at each point,  $\overrightarrow{r}$ . The fact that V is a scalar makes it very easy to use, which is one of the reasons the potential appears so often.

Again, textbooks derive the potentials for various simple charge distributions. A table follows:

Charge Distribution	Potential	
Point Charge, q	k <sub>o</sub> q/r	
Line Charge, λ	-2 k <sub>0</sub> λln(r/r <sub>0</sub> )	

 $\lambda$  = the line charge density

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Show that the potential due to a point charge follows from the integral definition of potential and the earlier equation for the electrostatic field due to a point charge.

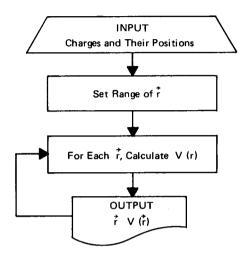
Analytical methods which solve electrostatics problems are generally limited to those which can be integrated easily. Numerical, computer-based solutions are not so limited. For a general charge distribution, you can break the distribution up into pieces (which can be treated as point charges or line charges or whatever) and then just add up the fields or potentials due to each piece. The computer-based methods are very general and yet are based only on the simple equations for fields and potentials (those quoted above).

#### VISUALIZING ELECTROSTATIC FIELDS

There are several ways to visualize electrostatic fields,  $\vec{E}$ . The first way uses the electrostatic potential,  $\vec{V}$ . The starting point is a plot of the potential everywhere in space. (Everywhere means at lots of points throughout some region of interest.) You then connect all the points having the same value of potential. The resulting surfaces in three dimensions (or contours in two dimensions) are called equipotentials. No work is done on or by a test charge moved around on any equipotential surface. The forces on any test charge are always perpendicular to equipotential surfaces. Because the electrostatic field is the force per unit charge on a test charge,  $q_2$ , the  $\vec{E}$  field is always perpendicular to equipotential surfaces. Thus you can visualize what happens to a test charge (in some field set up by given source charges) by finding the equipotentials in the field. You can also (crudely) find the electrostatic field,  $\vec{E}$ , at any point,  $\vec{r}$ , by discovering in which direction away from  $\vec{r}$  the potential decreases fastest. The greater the rate of change of potential, the stronger is the electric field,  $\vec{E}$ .

All you need to be able to do to use this method is to be able to calculate the potential everywhere due to any given source charge distribution. However, the equation for an equipotential, is difficult to derive even for fields as simple as that due to three point charges. With the computer you

just add up the potentials due to whatever set of source charges you have: for three point charges,  $q_1$ ,  $q_2$ ,  $q_3$  at  $\vec{r}_1$ ,  $\vec{r}_2$  and  $\vec{r}_3$  and for any point,  $\vec{r}$ , you sum  $k_0$   $(q_1/|\vec{r}-\vec{r}_1|+q_2/|\vec{r}-\vec{r}_2|+q_3/|\vec{r}-\vec{r}_3|)$ . For N charges, you add up N such terms. If the source distribution is some mixture of point charges, line charges and whatever else, you must remember to put the right form of the potential in each term. The method is easy and very general. A block diagram of this strategy for potentials is shown below:



A second method is occasionally used to visualize electrostatic fields. In this method, the vectors  $\overrightarrow{E(r)}$  are calculated at lots of points over the whole region of interest. Arrows representing the various fields,  $\overrightarrow{E(r)}$ , at the various points will be short where  $|\overrightarrow{E}|$  is small and long where  $|\overrightarrow{E}|$  is large. You can then visualize the  $\overrightarrow{E}$  field in terms of constant  $|\overrightarrow{E}|$  surfaces (or contours in two dimensions). Although this is a valid way to visualize fields, it is not very common. This method is illustrated by a problem at the end of this chapter.

The third and most common way to visualize electrostatic field patterns uses field lines. One of the main points of this chapter is to allow you to use simple computer programs to generate field line patterns for numbers of different source charge distributions.

The two-part definition of a field line is deceptively simple:

- 1. At every point,  $\vec{r}$ , the electrostatic field,  $\vec{E}$ , is tangent to (that is, is locally parallel to) the field line.
- 2. The number of field lines passing through a (unit, perpendicular) cross sectional area at  $\overrightarrow{r}$  is proportional to  $|\overrightarrow{E}(\overrightarrow{r})|$ .

This second part of the definition simply means that the field is strong where field lines bunch together and weak where lines are spread apart.

Notice a few points about field lines:

a.  $|\vec{E}|$  is usually not constant along a field line. Any line usually goes through regions where  $\vec{E}$  is weak and regions where  $\vec{E}$  is strong.

- b. Field lines start on positive charges and end on negative charges. If the total net charge of a charge distribution is not zero (that is, if there is more positive charge than negative, or vice versa) then some field lines may begin or end at infinity, since the lines will keep on searching for some charge on which to terminate.
- c. The number of lines that start on a +2 charge is twice the number that start on a +1 charge. Similarly, twice as many lines will end on a -2 charge as end on a -1 charge. You can choose arbitrarily how many lines start on a +1 charge (note that the second part of the field line definition says "proportional to"), but having chosen that number, all else follows.

At first sight the definition of field line seems very simple: after all, there are only two defining characteristics. At second glance, the definition seems to make field lines very complicated. Analytical solutions for field lines can only be performed for very simple source charge distributions, and even then the expressions look very complicated. Using a computer the field lines can be mapped using just the definition and a very short program.

Consider the following way to trace out a field line. Suppose you know some point,  $\vec{r} = (x,y,z)$ , on a field line. (Any point lies on some field line, so you define the field line you are going to trace by choosing the first point.) Suppose further that you want to take a step of size  $\triangle s$  along that field line. You calculate the field at  $\vec{r}$ ,  $\vec{E}(\vec{r})$ , and then use the first defining property (the line is parallel to  $\vec{E}$  at  $\vec{r}$ ) to calculate

$$\Delta x = \Delta s \overrightarrow{E}_{x}/|\overrightarrow{E}|$$

$$\Delta y = \Delta s E_{y}/|\overrightarrow{E}|$$

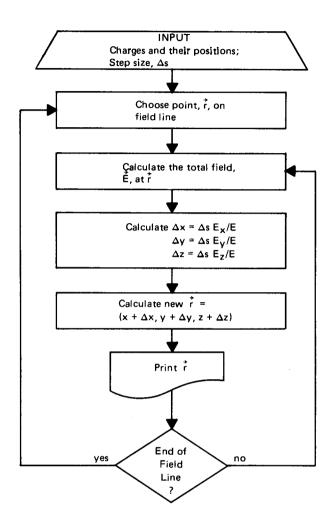
$$\Delta z = \Delta s E_{z}/|\overrightarrow{E}|$$
(6)

These equations say that  $\overrightarrow{\Delta s} = \overrightarrow{\Delta x} + \overrightarrow{\Delta y} + \overrightarrow{\Delta z}$  is parallel to  $\overrightarrow{E} = \overrightarrow{E}_X + \overrightarrow{E}_y + \overrightarrow{E}_z$  which is equivalent to the first defining property.

<u>Practice Exercise</u>: When  $\overrightarrow{E}_z = 0$ , show that the triangle  $\triangle x$ ,  $\triangle y$ ,  $\triangle s$  is similar to the triangle  $\overrightarrow{E}_x$ ,  $\overrightarrow{E}_y$ ,  $\overrightarrow{E}$ .

The next point along the field line is then  $(x+\Delta x, y+\Delta y, z+\Delta z)$ , and you can repeat the process at this new point. You walk along the field line step-by-step. Such a method of solution is called "algorithmic" (because the solution is an algorithm or procedure) or "iterative" (because you iterate or repeat the same steps over and over). Notice that the procedure breaks down if  $|\vec{E}| = 0$  at any point on the field line. Such methods are

easy on computers. A block diagram of this procedure is shown below:



Notice that you could perform the calculation yourself if you had the patience; there is nothing magic about the method at all.

What about the second part of the field line definition? How do you ensure that your pattern will obey that property, too? The answer lies in how you choose to start field lines. Close enough to any charge, the field lines will be radial since all the other charges are so far away their effects are negligible. Close to each positive charge you can choose the number of lines (q times the number you choose to start on a +1 charge) to start radially and at equal angles. Once the lines are started correctly, the whole pattern will remain correct. More lines will bend around so that they go through regions of strong field, and fewer lines will bend around so as to go through weak field regions. This simple method produces results automatically.

The same sort of procedure can be used to trace out equipotentials. Since equipotentials are always perpendicular to field lines, we move perpendicularly to the field,  $\vec{E}$ , at each point (rather than parallel to  $\vec{E}$ ). In two dimensions (or symmetrical three-dimensional systems such as those we consider below) this procedure is particularly easy. The steps  $\Delta x$  and  $\Delta y$ , parallel to x and y, are given by  $\Delta x = -\Delta s \; E_{\gamma}/|\vec{E}|$  and  $\Delta y = \Delta s \; E_{\chi}/|\vec{E}|$ .

### FIELD LINES AND EQUIPOTENTIALS WITH THE COMPUTER

Let us do an example of this procedure which is similar to the problems at the end of the chapter. We will choose a relatively simple example: two opposite charges (+1 and -1) at (+.5, 0) and (-.5, 0) respectively. Far away from the charges ( $|\vec{r}| >>1$ ) this pattern reduces to a dipole pattern. (This is actually one of the few problems which can be solved analytically. Hence this example can also serve to verify the numerical method; this verification is discussed in a problem.)

Since the pattern is symmetric under rotations around the x-axis, we can limit our discussion to the x-y plane. That is to say, the z direction is just like the y direction, so the full three-dimensional picture is just the one we will produce rotated around the x-axis. Two-dimensional pictures are easier to put on paper; the method, of course, works just as well in three dimensions. Most of the physical intuition can be derived from two-dimensional pictures.

Example 1. Find the potential for the above charge distribution. Consider -5 < x < 5 and -5 < y < 5.

The potential is just  $V = k_0 (+1/[distance from (+.5,0)]) + k_0 (-1/[distance from (-.5, 0)])$ . One program which calculates and prints-out the values of the potential is listed below:

```
POTENT
      PRINT "(X,Y) OF LEFT-BOTTOM & RIGHT-TOP?"] Specify Region
      INPUT X8, Y8, X9, Y9
110
      LET KØ= 1 - Set units
130
     LET Q=+1 - Magnitude of change
140
      LET NØ=9 - # of points across x and v
     LET X7=(X9-X8)/NØ- Ax
      LET Y7=(Y9-Y8)/N0- Ay
170
      FOR J=NØ TO Ø STEP -1 - Step down y
      LET Y0=Y8+J+Y7 - Each y in turn
180
      FOR 1=0 TO NO - Step across x
200
      LET X0=X8+I+X7 - Each x in turn
      LET R= SQR((X0-.5)*(X0-.5)+Y0*Y0) - Distance from (+.5.0)
210
220
      LET R1=SQR((X0+.5)*(X0+.5)+Y0*Y0) - Distance from (-.5.0)
230
      LET V=KØ*Q/R-KØ*Q/R1 - Potential
      PRINT V. - Print potential
240
250
      NEXT I
      PRINT
27 a
     NEXT J
280
      PRINT
      3 0TO 100 - Return for new region
300
      EN D
```

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Modify the program so that it computes the potential for two equal, positive charges at (+.5, 0), (-.5, 0).

A RUN of this program produces the following output. Notice that each value of y produces two lines of printing; the second line gives the values another page width to the right of the first line.

RUN POTENT								
(X,Y) OF LEFT-BOTTOM & RIGHT-TOP?								
?5,5, .5, . -1.10557 .156889	97 1852 4641	746108 .746108	464101 .971852	156889 1-10557				
-1 • 639 42	-1.44181	-1.08265	656706	- • 218 68				
• 218 68	.656706	1.08265	1.44181	1 • 639 42				
-2.63648	-2.26873	-1.60032	920048	298028				
.298028	.920048	1.60032	2.26873	2.63648				
-5.01361	-3.88657	-2.34283	-1-22807	382654				
-382654	1.22807	2.34283	3-88657	5.01361				
-17 • 0015	-6.92704	-3.08319	-1.46436	441558				
• 441558	1.46436	3.08319	6.927Ø3	17.0015				
-17 • 0015	-6.927 04	-3.08319	-1.46436	441558				
• 441558	1.46436	3.08319	6.927Ø3	17.0015				
-5.01361	-3.88657	-2.34283	-1.22807	382653				
.382653	1.22807	2.34283	3.88657	5.01361				
-2.63648	-2.26873	-1.60032	920048	298028				
.298028	.920048	1.60032	2.26873	2.63648				
-1 • 639 42	-1.44181	-1.08265	656706	- • 218 68				
• 218 68	.656706	1.08265	1-44181	1 • 639 42				
-1.10557	-•97 1852	746108	464101	156889				
.156889	•4641	-746108	-971852	1.10557				
(X,Y) OF LEFT	-BOTTOM & RIGHT	-TOP?						
?Ø, Ø, 1, 1 Ø	7.87228E-02	.152839	-218173	. 27 1 447				
.310716	•335603	.34721	.3477	.339727				
Ø	• 10363	.200662	•285002	• 351774				
• 398157	• 423933	.431343	•424242	• 406995				
0	• 138997	• 268 648	•379908	• 465109				
•519762	• 543989	• 5423Ø8	•521774	• 489679				
ø	• 1899 37	• 3 67 19 5	•518171	•629794				
• 69 38 29	• 7 1 1 0 0 5	• 69 07 67	•646572	•590792				
0	•263806	•512489	•725627	.87843				
•952723	•950207	•892262	•806114	.712763				
0	• 369911	•728777	1 • 04792	1 • 27 458				
1•3595	1• 30575	1•16882	1 • 00755	• 8 5 5 62				
0	•515818	1 • Ø 47 49	1.56911	1 • 9 6072				
2•05579	1•85912	1 • 5 47 4	1.25226	1 • 0 1 3 3 1				
Ø	• 69 478 1	1 • 48774	2.44052	3.33496				
3•43859	2•7 58	2 • 04009	1.52167	1.16815				
Ø	•862522	1•974	3.80283	6•99827				
7 • 1 Ø7 68	4•13902	2•56285	1.75478	1•28753				
Ø	•935065	2.21538	4.8	16.9412				
17•Ø526	5•14286	2.81739	1.85143	1.33333				
(X,Y) OF LEFT-BOTTOM & RIGHT-TOP?								

The largest positive numbers for the potential lie near the positive charge, the largest negative values of potential lie near the negative charge.

Sometimes plotting the potential helps you to see the pattern. You can plot characters on the terminal which represent the size of the potential at each (x,y) point on the plot. One way to produce such a plot involves several changes (shown below) in the potential program, POTENT, listed

on page 8. The characters represent the size of the potential; the position of each character is the point (x,y). Terminal plotting is sometimes crude since on most terminals the characters can only appear at definite places on the paper.

```
10 DIM A$(36)
20 LET A$="0123456789ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ"
112 PRINT "MIN. & MAX. V?"
114 INPUT V8, V9
140 LET N6=30
160 LET Y7=10*(Y9-Y8)/(6*N0)
170 FOR J=INT(.6*N0+.5) TO 0 STEP -1
240 LET 19=1+INT(35*(V-V8)/(V9-V8)+.5)
241 IF 19>=1 THEN 243
242 LET 19=1
243 IF 19<=36 THEN 245
244 LET 19=36
245 PRINT A$(19,19);
```

A RUN of this modified program looks like:

GET-POTENT

```
RIIN
POTENT
(X.Y) OF LEFT-BOTTOM & RIGHT-TOP?
?-.55,-.05,-.45,.05
MIN & MAX V?
7-100.0
UUUUUTTTTTSSSSSSTTTTTTUUUUUU
UUUTTTTTSSSSSRRRSSSSSSTTTTUUUU
UUTTTTSSSRRRRQQQQQRRRRSSSTTTTUU
UTTTSSSRRQQQPPPPPPPQQQRRSSSTTTU
TTTSSRRQQPPONNNNNNN OPPQQRRSSTTT
TTSSRRQPOONMLKKKKKKLMN OOPQRRSSTT
TSSRRQPONMKJHGFEFGHJLMN OPQRRSST
TSSRQPONMKIFC85458 CFIKMN OPQRSST
SSRRQPOMLIFB5000005BFILN OPQRRSS
SSRRQPOMKIE900020009EIKMOPQRRSS
SSRRQPOMLIFB5000005BFILNOPQRRSS
TSSRQPONMKIFC85458 CFIKMN OPQRSST
TSSRRQPONMKJHGFEFGHJLMN OPQRRSST
TTSSRRQPOONMLKKKKKLMNOOPQRRSSTT
TTTSSRRQQPPONNNNNNN OPPQQRRSSTTT
UTTTSSSRRQQQPPPPPPPQQQRRSSSTTTU
UUTTTTSSSRRRRQQQQQRRRRSSSTTTTUU
UUUTTTTTSSSSSSRRRSSSSSSTTTTUUUU
UUUUUUTTTTTTSSSSSSSTTTTTTUUUUUU
(X,Y) OF LEFT-BOTTOM & RIGHT-TOP?
?-.5,-.5,.5,.5
MIN & MAX V?
НИНИНИНИНИНИНИ ТЕТЕТЕТ
GGGGHHHHHHHHHHIIIIIIIIIIIJJJ
GGGGGGHHHHHHHHHHIIIIIIIIIIIJJJJJJ
GGGGGGGHHHHHHHIIIIIIIIIJJJJJJJJ
FFFFGGGGGHHHHHHIIIIIIIJJJJKKKK
EEEFFFGGGHHHHHIIIIIIJJJKKKLLL
CCDEEFFGGGHHHHHIIIIIIIJJKKLLMNN
67 ACDEFFGGGHHHHI I I I I JJJKKLMNPST
Z 08 BDEFFGGGHHHHI I I I I JJJKKLMORZ Z
67 ACDEFFGGGHHHHI I I I I JJJKKLMNPST
CCDEEFFGGGHHHHHIIIIIIJJKKLLMNN
EEEFFFGGGGHHHHHHIIIIIIJJJJKKKLLL
FFFFGGGGGHHHHHHIIIIIIIJJJJKKKK
GGGGGGGHHHHHHHIIIIIIIIIJJJJJJJ
GGGGGGHHHHHHHHIIIIIIIIIIIJJJJJ
11111111111111111
(X,Y) OF LEFT-BOTTOM & RIGHT-TOP?
```

(The character  $\emptyset$  represents  $V \le 1$  the minimum potential; the character  $\mathbb{Z}$  represents  $\mathbb{V} \ge 1$  the maximum potential.)

<u>Example 2.</u> Sketch three equipotentials (approximately) on a plot of potentials.

Using the terminal plots you can connect the points having approximately equal values of potential. Points having the same character are connected (but not  $\emptyset$  or Z); sometimes it is necessary to interpolate between characters (for example to find where 6 would come between printed 5 and 7 characters). The breadth of a region having a given character is broadest when the potential is changing slowly.

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> On the second terminal plot, find the boundary between the I and J equipotentials. What is the shape of this equipotential off the plot?

Practice Exercise: On the first terminal plot, find the K equipotential.

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Find the contour on which the value of the potential is actually zero on the first terminal plot. Explain its behavior. (It is possible to have the computer hunt through and interpolate between points to find points on a given equipotential.)

Example 3. Sketch three field lines (approximately) on a plot of potentials.

You can find field lines by moving in the direction of the fastest decrease in potential at each point. Using terminal plots the field lines are crude, but you can still get a feeling for this behavior.

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Starting near the lower left corner of the first terminal plot, follow a field line inward.

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> On the second terminal plot, follow a field line which leaves the positive charge at 135° to the x-axis.

Example 4. Using an algorithmic method, compute three field lines for this charge distribution.

You can use a program which implements the algorithmic strategy discussed above. One program which does this is the following:

```
EMAP
    100 LET NO=2 - # of charges
          FOR J=1 TO NØ
READ X(J), Y(J), Q(J) Positions and
    120
           NEXT J
                                            Values of Charges
    130
           DATA .5,0,1,-.5,0,-1
          LET No. 90 E+ 69 - Units

LET D= 05 - Step size. As

PRINT "(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?"

INPUT X5.Y5
    150
Initialization
    160
    17 Ø
    180
           LET X0=X5 - x along line
LET Y0=Y5 - y along line
    190
    200
          LET X1=\emptyset - \Delta x
LET Y1=\emptyset - \Delta y
    210
    220
           LET S0= • 5 - Print out every S0 along line
    230
           LET S=Ø - Distance S along line
    250
           DRINT 'Y'. 'Y'
           LET E1=0
    260
           LET E2=0
           FOR J=1 TO NØ - Add up fields for each charge
LET R3=(XØ+X1/2-X[J])*(XØ+X1/2-X[J])
    280
    29 Ø
           LET R3=R3+(Y0+Y1/2-Y[J])*(Y0+Y1/2-Y[J])
    310
          LET R3=R3+1.5=|\vec{r}|^3
LET E=K0+Q[J]/R3-|\vec{E}||\vec{r}|
    320
    330
           LET E1=E1+(X0+X1/2-X[J])*E-Ex
    340
           LET E2=E2+(Y0+Y1/2-Y[J])*E-E
    350
           NEXT J
    360
           LET E0= SQR(E1*E1+E2*E2)-|F|
    37 Ø
           LET X1=D*E1/E0- 4x
           LET X0=X0+X1 - New x
LET Y1=D*E2/E0 - Δy
    38.0
    390
           LET Y0=Y0+Y1- New y
          LET S=S+D
IF S<SØ THEN 450
    410
    420
                                     Print-out
    430
           LET S=0
                                     Lines
    440
           PRINT X0,Y0
FOR J=1 TO NØ
    450
           IF ABS(X0-X[J])+ABS(Y0-Y[J])<.9*D THEN 490
                                                                             Tests to end
    460
    47 A
           NEXT J
           IF ABS(X0)+ABS(Y0)<10 THEN 260-Far off page
    480
           PRINT XØ, YØ - Print out last point
    500
           PRINT
           GOTO 170 - Return for new line
    510
           END
```

All calculations of the distance from each charge and of the fields use an estimate of the position one-half step ahead of the present point on the line. This half-step method is quite accurate even with a relatively large step size (and hence relatively few iterations to complete a line). The question of accuracy and the idea of a half-step method are discussed further in Appendix B.

A RUN of this program looks like the following:

#### EMAP

```
(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?
7.55,.05
 .879727
                 . 425224
 1.13562
                  .853816
 1.2977
                  1.32582
 1.35226
                  1.82174
                  2.31608
 1 . 28 67 4
1.09079
 -762383
                  3-14798
• 321695
-• 173504
                  3.37725
                  3 - 40938
- 638683
-1.00482
                  2.89915
-1.24142
                  2.46087
-1.32623
                  1 • 47 48 5
-1-1954
                 •993281
--966379
- . 655836
                  . 1587 64
- · 515865
                  .015919
(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?
 1.03884
                  • 114918
 2.00277
                  .380176
 2 . 47 69 4
                  .538725
 2.94573
                  .712554
```

```
.900448
3 - 409 07
 3.86689
                  1-1014
                  1.31457
4.31915
4.76582
                  1.53924
 5.20685
                  1.77478
                  2.02064
 5.64222
 6.07188
 6 • 49 57 9
                  2.54145
 6-91394
                  2.81558
 7.07958
(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?
```

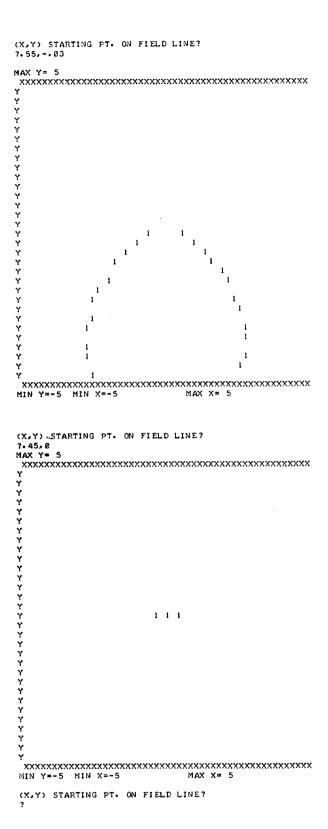
The field lines start at the positive charge and end at the negative charge. Some lines are much longer than others; the longer ones bend around from the back side of the positive charge to the back side of the negative charge. The line leaving the back side of the positive charge directly away from the negative charge must go through infinity to get back to the negative charge.

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Modify the program to find field lines for four point charges: +1 at (+1, +1), -1 at (-1, +1), +1 at (-1, -1) and -1 at (+1, -1).

Plotting can be helpful in this exercise. If you have a plotter system or a plotting terminal, use it; if not, terminal plotting can serve. The changes required to use terminal plotting with EMAP refer to subroutines in Appendix A and are as follows:

MAX X= 5

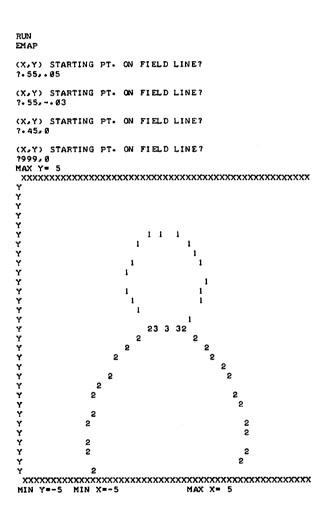
MIN Y=-5 MIN X=-5



Sometimes it is useful to have several lines on one plot. The following changes in the original field line program, EMAP, listed on page 11, accomplish this.

```
GET-EMAP
10 READ X8,X9,Y8,Y9,Z0
20 DATA -5,5,-5,5,0
30 GOSUB 9000
182 IF X5=999 THEN 515
183 LET Z0=Z0+1
205 GOSUB 9100
250
440 GOSUB 9100
490 GOSUB 9100
515 GOSUB 9200
APP-TTYPLO
```

A RUN of this modified program is shown below:



(The terminal plotting programming prints the last character plotted at each position.)

Finally, it is possible to modify the field line program to follow equipotential contours instead. All you do is move perpendicularly to the field  $\overrightarrow{E}$  at each point (instead of parallel). The modified program is listed below, followed by a run and a terminal plot.

```
100 LET NO=2
110 FOR J=1 TO NO
120 READ X[J],Y[J],Q[J]
130 NEXT J
140 DATA .5,0,1,-.5,0,-1
150 LET K0=9.E+09

160 LET D=.05

170 PRINT "(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?"
         INPUT X5,Y5
 180
190 LET X0=X5
200 LET Y0=Y5
210 LET X1=0
220 LET Y1=0
230 LET S0=.5
240 LET S=0
         PRINT "X", "Y"
250
260 LET E1=0
270 LET E2=0
280 FOR J=1 TO N0
290 LET R3=(X0+X1/2-X(J])*(X0+X1/2-X(J])
300 LET R3=R3+(Y0+Y1/2-Y[J])*(Y0+Y1/2-Y[J])
310 LET R3=R3+1.5
320 LET E=K0*Q[J]/R3
330 LET E1=E1+(X0+X1/2-X[J])*E
340
        LET E2=E2+(Y0+Y1/2-Y[J])*E
        NEXT J
LET E0=SQR(E1*E1+E2*E2)
350
360
360 LET E0#SQR(E|#E|*370 LET X|=-D*E2/E0 380 LET X0#X0#X| 390 LET Y|=D*E|/E0 400 LET Y0=Y0#Y| 410 LET S=S+D 420 IF S<50 THEN 450 430 LET S=0
440
         PRINT XØ,YØ
        IF ABS(X0-X5)+ABS(Y0-Y5)<.9*D THEN 470
IF ABS(X0)+ABS(Y0)<10 THEN 260
450
460
47 Ø
         PRINT XØ, YØ
        PRINT
GOTO 170
Δ8 Ø
49 Ø
```

#### VMAP

VMAP

```
(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?
? . 3 . Ø
 . 655171
                  --166054
 . 54441
                   .219905
 . 293041
                  3.07 172E-02
(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?
7.1.0
X
• 263204
                 -.459612
-.610559
 .719458
 1.12219
                 -. 339 661
 1.20455
                  •140735
•536615
 .921518
                   .214304
 . 127082
 9.85179E-02
                 1 · 68 65 1E-02
(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?
?--1,0
x
-.263204
                 - 459 612
-.719458
                 - · 610559
- · 339661
-1.12219
-1.20455
                  -140735
-.921519
-.440887
                  •536616
•580765
-9.85179E-02
                 1.68656E-02
(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?
```

```
GET-VMAP
10 READ X8, X9, Y8, Y9, Z0
20 DATA -3,3,-3,3,0
30 GOSUB 9000
185 IF X5=999 THEN 495
186 LET Z0=Z0+1
205 GOSUB 9100
250
440 GOSUB 9100
47 Ø GOSUB 9100
495 GOSUB 9200
APP-TTYPLO
RIIN
VMAP
(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?
7.3.0
(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?
? . 1 . 0
(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?
(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?
7999,0
MAX Y= 3
3
                          2
                      3 2
                      3 211
                        2
                     3
 MIN Y=-3 MIN X=-3
                          MAX X= 3
```

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Annotate the program with comments by each line or group of lines explaining what calculation the line or group perform. You may use the annotations on the earlier program as a guide.

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Modify either of the algorithmic programs so that the program follows either a field line or an equipotential. Allow the user to decide which type of contour to follow each time he starts a new contour.

#### CONCLUSION

The methods discussed here are very general. Field lines and equipotentials can be found for any source charge distribution. By writing and running your own programs for several different charge distributions, you will gain a very good feeling for the behavior of field lines and equipotentials. Field line mapping is fundamental to every part of electricity and magnetism, so it will be helpful to gain this intuition now.

#### **CHAPTER ONE EXERCISES**

- 1. Consider the line charge distribution: +3 at (+.5,0) and -1 at (-.5,0). (This potential is symmetric around the x-axis so we only need to view it in the x-y plane).
  - a) Find the potential for this charge distribution. Use the character plotting method to observe the potential. (You will need to print the values in the region first in order to know the largest and smallest values of the potential to plot.) Consider the regions: -.55 < x < -.45, -.05 < y < .05; +.45 < x < .55, -.05 < y < .05; and -5 < x < 5, -5 < y < 5.
  - b) Sketch several equipotentials on each of the character plots. Since the change in potential is linear with the character set, if you sketch the equipotentials for every third character (eg., 2, 5, 8 etc.), then the contour lines are close together when the change in the potential is large (and the field is strong).
  - c) Sketch four field lines on the character plots.
  - d) Using an algorithmic method, compute four field lines for the large region considered in (a).
  - e) Using an algorithmic method, compute four equipotential lines for the large region considered in (a).
- 2. Consider the line charge distribution  $\lambda$  = +1 at (+.5, -.25),  $\lambda$  = +1 at (-.5, -.25) and  $\lambda$  = +1 at (0, +.62), an equilateral triangle. The line charges are perpendicular to the x-y plane.
  - a) Find the potential for this charge distribution. Use the character plotting method. Consider the region -2 < x < 2, -2 < y < 2.
  - b) Sketch several equipotentials on the character plot.
  - c) Sketch three field lines starting at each charge on the character plot.
  - d) Using an algorithmic method, compute four field lines starting at each charge of this charge distribution.
  - e) Using a algorithmic method, compute several equipotential lines. Pick equipotentials close to each charge and then far away from all of them.
  - f) How would you compare the potential near each charge and far away from all of them to a single line charge distribution?

- 3. Consider the line charge distribution of  $\lambda$  = +1 at (.5, .5);  $\lambda$  = -1 at (.5, -5);  $\lambda$  = +1 at (-.5, -.5); and  $\lambda$  = -1 at (-.5, +.5). The line charges are perpendicular to the x-y plane.
  - a) Find the potential for this charge distribution. Use the character plotting method. Consider the region -2 < x < 2, -2 < y < 2.
  - b) Sketch several equipotentials on the character plot.
  - Sketch three field lines starting at each charge on the character plot.
  - d) Using an algorithmic method, compute four field lines for this charge distribution.
  - Using an algorithmic method, compute several equipotential lines. Pick equipotentials close to each charge and then far away from all of them.
  - f) Locate the planes on which the potential is zero.
- 4. Modify Exercise 3 so that each of the line charges has  $\lambda$  = +1. Sketch your idea of the equipotential and the field lines before you calculate them.
  - a) Using an algorithmic method, compute four field lines starting at each positive charge for this charge distribution.
  - b) Using an algorithmic method, compute equipotential lines for the distribution.
  - c) How would you compare the potential near each charge and far away from all of them to a single charge distribution.
- 5. Let us examine the idea that a set of point charges can be used to approximate any field distribution. To do this, let us approximate a line charge by a set of point charges. Consider the point charge distribution with nine +1 charges from (-2,0) to (2,0) at .5 intervals.
  - a) Compute the field line distribution for this charge distribution.
  - b) Compute the equipotential lines for this distribution.
  - c) Since you know the analytical expression for the field and potential from a line charge, compare your point charge approximation to it. Where does the point charge approximation to field lines and potential differ from the line charge? (There are three regions where the two differ most).
  - d) How would you make a better approximation to the line charge?

- 6. Consider the line charge distribution of  $\lambda = +1$  at (0,0);  $\lambda = -1$  at (-1,0);  $\lambda = -1$  at (+1,0);  $\lambda = +1$  at (-2,0);  $\lambda = +1$  at (2,0);  $\lambda = -1$  at (-3,0);  $\lambda = -1$  at (3,0);  $\lambda = +1$  at (-4,0); and  $\lambda = +1$  at (4,0).
  - a) Compute the field line distribution for this charge distribution of -.5 < x < .5, -1 < y < 1.
  - b) Compute the equipotential lines for this distribution.
  - c) On what surfaces is the potential zero?
- 7. In Exercises 3 and 6, and in the dipole example, the charge distribution leads to planes of zero potential. These problems illustrate the image phenomena. The field pattern of these charge distributions is the same as that of conducting sheets at zero potential and the charge distribution on one side. For example, Exercise 3 can be thought of as +1 at (.5, .5); -1 at (.5, -.5) and a conducting plane at zero potential along the y-axis. The way to solve the conducting sheet problem is to set it up as if each charge has an image of opposite sign an equal distance on the other side of the plane. Thus, Exercise 3 is the solution to the two charges and the conducting plane.
  - a) Exercise 3 is also the solution to another charge distribution and a plane. What is it?
  - b) Exercise 3 can be seen as the solution to the charge distribution for two conducting planes and a point charge. Where are the planes?
  - c) How can Exercise 6 be restated in terms of conducting planes?
  - d) Consider the line charge distribution  $\lambda = +2$  at (.5,0),  $\lambda = -1$  at (.5, .5);  $\lambda = -1$  at (.5, -.5) and a conducting plane along the yz axis. How would you solve this problem using the method of images?
- 8. Consider the charge distribution caused by an infinite solid cylinder of charge centered on the z-axis with a radius of .5. This can be approximated by a set of line charges parallel to the z-axis.
  - a) Compute the field line distribution for this charge distribution.
  - b) Compute the equipotential lines for this distribution.
  - c) What is the potential inside the cylinder?
  - d) What should the field be according to Gauss's law inside the cylinder? How does the potential and field outside of the cylinder compare to those of a single line charge?
- We have visualized fields by either equipotentials or field lines. We can also visualize fields by surfaces of constant field magnitude.

Consider the dipole charge distribution we used in the text.

- a) Print the magnitude of the field over the region used in the text.
- b) Convert the character printing program so that the characters represent magnitudes of fields.
- c) Draw in the equifield regions on the character plots.
- d) How do the equifield regions differ from equipotential lines?
- e) Is there any relationship between the constant field contours and the directions in which the fields point?
- 10. The analytical solution of a dipole is:

the potential 
$$V = p \cos \theta/r^2$$

and 
$$E_x = 3p \sin \theta \cos \theta / r^3$$

$$E_7 = p (3\cos^2\theta - 1)/r^3$$

are the field components when the dipole p is centered at the origin and is parallel to the z direction. The angle  $\theta$  is measured with respect to the z direction, and r is measured from the center of the dipole.

If the dipole is caused by two single charges on the z-axis, then |p| = qs where s is the distance between the charges (the positive charge is assumed to be in the positive z direction).

- a) Compare the program results obtained for the potential calculated from two point charges with the analytical dipole approximation. (Compare the values on the x- and z-axes at the distances 1, 5, 20.)
- b) Compare the calculated results for the field with the analytical approximation. To do this, see if the two solutions are parallel to each other along the x-axis at 1, 5, 20 and along the 45° line between the x- and z-axes at the distances 1, 5, 20 from the origin.

# CHAPTER TWO: MAGNETOSTATIC FIELDS

#### INTRODUCTION

Magnetic fields  $\overrightarrow{B(r)}$  result from currents. (We will use the term magnetic field even though magnetic induction is strictly correct; the distinction is really only important when you deal with magnetic materials.) If the currents are steady (that is, do not change with time), the magnetic field is magnetostatic. The purpose of this chapter is to find how to map magnetostatic fields by means of flux lines.

### MAGNETIC FIELDS FOR VARIOUS CURRENT DISTRIBUTIONS

Physics textbooks derive equations for the magnetic field due to simple current distribution, such as the long straight wire. The texts also introduce the Biot-Savart law (sometimes called the Biot law) which gives the magnetic field everywhere in space due to a short segment of current,  $Id\overline{\ell}$ . These are the only results for magnetic field that we will need in this chapter. The Biot-Savart law is sufficiently general and, when you use a computer, sufficiently easy to use that any current distribution can be handled.

For a long straight wire the magnetic field is given by  $\vec{B}=2k_0$  l/r (tangential around the wire with sense by the right-hand rule), where r is the perpendicular distance to the wire, and  $k_0$  is a constant which determines the units.  $k_0=\mu_0/4\pi=10^{-7}$  in mks units in which B is measured in Tesla;  $k_0=1/c=1/3x10^{10}$  in Gaussian (cgs) units in which B is measured in Gauss. In mixed units where currents are measured in amperes and magnetic field in Gauss,  $k_0=1$ . (One Tesla is  $10^4$  Gauss.)

The Biot-Savart law states that the magnetic field,  $\overrightarrow{dB}$ , due to a small element of current,  $\overrightarrow{Idl}$ , is

$$\overrightarrow{dB} = k_0 |\overrightarrow{d\ell} \times \overrightarrow{r}/|\overrightarrow{r}|^3$$
 (7)

where  $\vec{r}$  is the distance from  $\vec{d\ell}$  to the point, (x, y, z), that the field,  $\vec{dB}$ , is measured. This relationship allows you to compute the magnetic field due to any circuit by breaking the circuit up into little pieces and then adding up all the  $\vec{dB}$ 's. This relationship for  $\vec{dB}$  is an inverse square law but has the complication of the vector cross product in the numerator. The cross product (in Cartesian coordinates especially) is quite easy to calculate on a computer.

#### MAPPING FIELD LINES

There are two ways to visualize magnetic field patterns. The first is not often used but is easy to understand. In this first method, the magnetic field,  $\overrightarrow{B}$ , is computed at a large number of points throughout the region of interest. The entire field is then visualized in terms of contours (or surfaces in three dimensions) of constant  $|\overrightarrow{B}|$ . This method is not in common use but is considered further in a problem at the end of the chapter.

The second (and very common) way to visualize magnetic field patterns uses flux lines. The definition of a flux line has two parts: (1) the magnetic field,  $\vec{B}(\vec{r})$ , is tangential to the flux line at each point,  $\vec{r}$ , and (2) the number of flux lines passing through a (unit, perpendicular) cross section placed at any point,  $\vec{r}$ , is proportional to the magnitude of the magnetic field,  $|\vec{B}(\vec{r})|$ , at that point.

To calculate the shapes of flux lines analytically (the result then being an equation for the lines) is very difficult. With a computer, such calculations are straightforward. Suppose you know a point, (x, y, z), on a flux line. (Any point (x, y, z) lies on some flux line. So choosing an arbitrary starting point defines a particular flux line which will be followed.) Suppose further that you want to take a step of size  $\Delta s$  along the flux line. The first defining property for flux lines  $(\vec{B}$  is parallel to the line) implies that

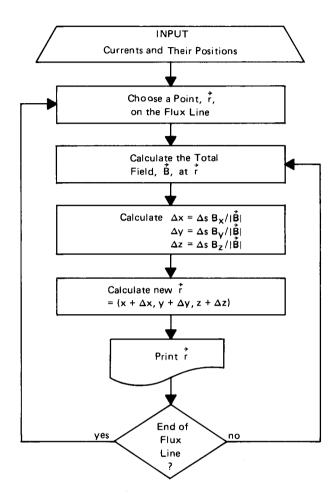
$$\triangle x = \triangle s B_X / |\overrightarrow{B}|$$

$$\triangle y = \triangle s \ B_V / |\overrightarrow{B}|$$

$$\triangle z = \triangle s B_z / |\overrightarrow{B}|$$

These equations say that  $\overrightarrow{\Delta s} = \overrightarrow{\Delta x} + \overrightarrow{\Delta y} + \overrightarrow{\Delta z}$  is parallel to  $\overrightarrow{B} = \overrightarrow{B}_x + \overrightarrow{B}_y + \overrightarrow{B}_z$ . At the point (x, y, z) you calculate  $\overrightarrow{B}$ ; and then calculate  $\Delta x$ ,  $\Delta y$  and  $\Delta z$ . The next point along the flux line is  $(x + \Delta x, y + \Delta y, z + \Delta z)$ . Since you now know another point on the flux line, you can repeat the process. In this way the computer is used to walk along the flux line in small steps,  $\Delta s$ .

Flux lines never end, so the process continues until we return to the starting point. A block diagram of this strategy looks like this:



The fact that flux lines never end is a consequence of the fact that the next flux through any region must be zero ( $\oint \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{A} = 0$ ). As much flux must enter as leaves; hence, no flux line can end. (The corresponding statement for electrostatic fields is  $\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A} = 4\pi k_0 q$ . This implies that electrostatic field lines end or start only on charges, which may, if necessary, be at infinity.)

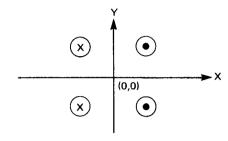
Notice that this iterative procedure for following flux lines will break down if  $|\overrightarrow{B}| = 0$  at any point on the line.

#### FLUX LINES FOR A SET OF LONG STRAIGHT WIRES

Let's consider a simple case.

Example 1. Map the magnetic induction pattern due to four long straight wires parallel to the z-axis. The currents and the points (x, y) at which the wires cut the x-y plane are: +1 at (+1, +1); -1 at (-1, +1); and +1 at (+1, -10).

Schematically the situation in the x-y plane is:



This is a relatively simple current distribution, but analytical methods cannot calculate the flux lines. A plus one current means a current of one ampere (in mks units) which is coming out of the page (by the right-hand rule).

By symmetry, the magnetic field,  $\overrightarrow{B}$ , has no z-component. All planes parallel to the x-y plane are equivalent, so we need only consider the x-y plane itself. A program implementing the strategy discussed above might look like the following:

```
BMAP
100
       DIM X[43,Y[43,I[4]
 110
      LET NØ=4
                                                        Currents and
       FOR J=1 TO NØ
                                                       Geometry for
130
       READ X[J],Y[J],I[J]
                                                        long, straight
      NEXT J
 140
       DATA 1, 1, 1, -1, 1, -1, -1, -1, -1, 1, -1, 1
      LET KØ=1.E-07 - Units
LET D=.05 - Step size, \( \Delta \)
 160
 170
 180
       PRINT "(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?"
       INPUT X5,Y5
200
      LET X0=X5 - x
LET Y0=Y5 - y
210
       LET X1=0 - Ax
230
      LET Y1=0-\Delta y
LET S0=.5-Print every SØ along line
240
       LET S=Ø - Distance, S, along line
PRINT 'X'', 'Y''
260
       LET BI=Ø
27 Ø
       LET B2=Ø
29 0
      FOR J=1 TO NØ
LET R2=(XØ+X1/2-X[J])*(XØ+X1/2-X[J])
300
       Calculate R
      LET B= 2*K0*I(J]/R2 - |\vec{B}|/r

LET B1=B1-(Y0+Y1/2-Y(J])*B-B_{\chi}

LET B2=B2+(X0+X1/2-X(J])*B-B_{\chi}
330
340
       NEXT J
360
       LET BØ=SQR(BI*B1+B2*B2) - |B|
       LET X1=D*B1/B0- Ax
       LET XØ=XØ+X1-Newx
390
       LET Y1=D*B2/B0 - A
       LET YO=YO+Y1- New y
400
       LET S=S+D
420
       IF S<SØ THEN 450
                               Print out
       LET S=Ø
430
       PRINT XØ,YØ
440
450
       IF ABS(X0)+ABS(Y0)>10 THEN 470-Far off page
       IF ABS(X0-X5)+ABS(Y0-Y5)>.9*D THEN 270 - Back to | End of Line
- 460
       PRINT X0, Y0 - Last point on line
       PRINT
 190
       GOTO 180 - Return for new line
       END
```

The calculation of the magnetic field,  $\overrightarrow{B}(\overrightarrow{r})$ , in this program uses a point (approximately) one-half a step ahead of the present point on the line. A discussion of convergence and the half-step method are found in Appendix B. A run of this program looks like this:

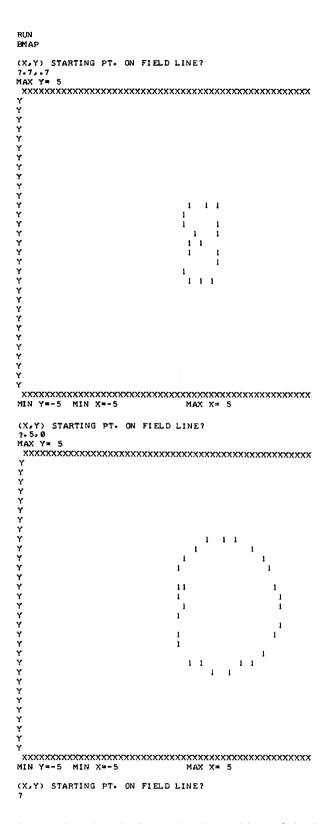
```
RUN
BMAP
(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?
7.8..8
 1.2319
                  . 640183
 1.40682
                  1.06023
 1.0171
 .7 439 17
                  .945335
 .792453
                  .804443
(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?
?.5,Ø
х
 . 435075
                 - . 49 47 47
 . 38 2 48 4
                -.990777
 • 49 69 48
                -1-4741
                 -1-87544
 1.20665
                 -2-14756
 1.68888
                 -2.27552
 2-18638
                 -2.26245
 2.66452
                 -2.12079
 3.09446
                 -1.867R
 3.45537
                 -1.52326
 3-7323
                 -1.10812
 3.9151
                 - . 643715
 3.997 67
                 -- 151479
 3.97737
                  -831059
1-27863
 3.85484
 3.63404
 3.3226
                  1.66852
 2.93244
                  1-97947
 2.48067
                  2.19 689
 1.99078
                  2 28 37 9
 1.49415
                  2.24244
 1.03185
                  2.05738
 . 656388
                  1.73115
 .388341
                  .794198
 47 19 62
                  .301455
                  3.20055E-03
(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?
```

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Modify this program to follow flux lines due to two wires both with I = +1 with (x,y) position (-.5,0) and (+.5,0).

Terminal plotting is sometimes useful to display flux lines. If you have a plotter system or a plotting terminal, you may want to use that. Terminal plotting can be performed as discussed in Appendix A. The necessary changes in the flux line program BMAP on page 24 (and then a run) to do terminal plotting might look like:

```
GET-EMAP

10 READ X8,X9,Y8,Y9,Z0
20 DATA -5,5,-5,5,1
30 GOSUB 9000
205 GOSUB 9100
250
430 GOSUB 9100
450 GOSUB 9100
450 GOSUB 9100
452 GOSUB 9200
```



<u>Practice Exercise:</u> By hand, plot the positions of the line currents on the terminal plots.

The flux lines bend around and close on themselves. The field is higher halfway between the oppositely-directed currents and lower halfway between the like-directed currents. The field is quite uniform (that is, the flux lines are nearly parallel over a fair-sized region) at the center of the pattern.

#### THE DENSITY OF FLUX LINES

If the flux lines are started correctly somewhere in the pattern, the density of the lines will be correct everywhere. That is, if the second defining property is obeyed somewhere by all the flux lines, it will be obeyed everywhere. The difficulty is that there is no easy way to make the density correct anywhere. (This is unlike the case for electrostatic field lines in Chapter One. For electrostatic field lines you can start the lines correctly near the charges.)

You might be interested in thinking about this difficulty. Can you see a way to start the lines with the correct density? How about calculating the flux through small regions across, say, the line from (-1,0) to (+1,0) in our example? You might then start the correct number of lines in each region.

### FIELD LINES FOR COMPLICATED CURRENT DISTRIBUTIONS

The same algorithmic procedure to follow flux lines can be used for more complicated current distributions. You can use the Biot-Savart law quoted at the beginning of this chapter. By breaking up any current distribution into little pieces,  $Id\hat{k}$ , using the Biot-Savart law to calculate the  $d\hat{B}s$  for each piece, and then adding the  $d\hat{B}s$  to find the total magnetic field, B, you can calculate the magnetic field anywhere in space for any current distribution. Using the resulting values of  $B = (B_X, B_Y, B_Z)$ , you can follow the flux lines for any current distribution by making  $\Delta s$  parallel to B as above.

Let's find the field pattern for a Helmholtz pair of circular coils. A Helmholtz pair has two parallel, circular coils carrying equal currents and having a separation equal to the coils' (common) radius.

Example 2. Map the magnetic field pattern in the x-y plane due to a pair of Helmholtz coils of radius one carrying a current of +1A. Both coils are parallel to the y-z plane.

A program which calculates the magnetic field,  $\overrightarrow{B}$ , using the Biot-Savart law and follows flux lines algorithmically might look like the following:

```
COILMP
       DIM C[20], S[20]
120 FOR J=1 TO NØ
130 READ X(J),R(J),I(J)
140
      NEXT J
150
       DATA .5, 1, 1, -.5, 1, 1
160
      LET P2=6.28318
LET N9=10
170
      FOR I=1 TO N9
      LET T=P2*(I-.5)/N9 Store
LET C[I]=COS(T) sines a
LET S[I]=SIN(T) cosine
190
200
                                     sines and
210
       NEXT I
LET KØ=1.E-07
LET D=.1
220
230
240
       PRINT "(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?"
INPUT X5,Y5
LET X0=X5
LET Y0=Y5
250
260
27 Ø
28 Ø
       LET X1=0
LET Y1=0
290
300
       LET SE= . 5
       LET S=Ø
PRINT "X", "Y"
320
330
       LET BI=0
      LET B2=0
LET B3=0
350
360
       FOR J=1 TO NØ - step through coils
FOR I=1 TO N9 - step around each coil
LET L1=Ø
38.0
390
       LET L2=-P2*R[J]*S[1]/N9
400
       LET L3=P2*R[J]*C[1]/N9
       LET L7=X[J]
420
       LET L8=R[J]*C[]
430
       LET L9=R[J]*S[]]
       LET X6=X0+X1/2-L7
LET Y6=Y0+Y1/2-L8
450
460
       LET Z6=-L9
48.0
       LET R6=SQR(X6*X6+Y6*Y6+Z6*Z6)
       LET R6=R6*R6*R6
490
       LET C1=L2*Z6-L3*Y6
       LET C2=L3*X6-L1*Z6 Cross product

LET C3=L1*Y6-L2*X6

LET B1=B1+K0*I[J]*C1/R6-B<sub>X</sub>
510
520
530
540
       LET B2=B2+K0*I(J)*C2/R6-B
       LET B3=B3+K0+I[J]+C3/R6-B
550
       NEXT I
560
57 0
       NEXT J
      NEXT J

LET B0*SQR(B1*E1+B2*B2+E3*E3)

LET X1=D*E1/B0

LET Y0=X0*X1

LET Y0=X0*X1

LET Y0=Y0*Y1

LET S=S+D
580
590
610
620
630
       IF S<SØ THEN 670
LET S=Ø
PRINT XØ,YØ
640
650
660
       IF ABS(X0)+ABS(Y0)>10 THEN 690
IF ABS(X0-X5)+ABS(Y0-Y5)>.9*D THEN 340
67 @
68.0
69 Ø
       PFINT X0.Y0
700
       PRINT
710
       G0T0 250
       EN D
```

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Annotate the program by written comments by each line.

#### A run looks like this:

```
RUN
COILMP
(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?
70.1
X
 . 469 244
                   -857036
 .789097
                   1-18179
 . 615597
                   1 63534
· 180641
                   1.86649
                   1.83018
-.700194
                   1.52856
-.757882
                   1.05049
-.341947
                   -8 69 39 8
-6.54586E-@2
                   985284
(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE? ?.4,.9
× .760749
                   1 • 13971
 . 59 65 47
                   1.59283
 . 152504
                   1.80504
--33987
--711667
                   1.75606
                  1.43789
                   .965799
                  .939789
.932256
-.226359
.235256
                   .889544
(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?
. 4997 65
. 97 69
1 . 37 464
                  Y . 4973
                   · 635Ø58
                   .935003
                   1.32485
 1 • 68 635
 1.92196
                   2.23709
2.72804
 2.08598
 2 · 17837
2 · 1968
                   3-22724
 2.13798
                   3.72326
 1.99862
                   4 . 65
 1 - 47 18 4
                   5.04543
 1.09004
                   5.3667
 . 644055
 .156582
                   5.69515
-- 341449
-- 816714
                   5 • 67 Ø8
5 • 5197
                   5.25712
-1.59496
-1.86911
                   4.90542
                   4.48822
-2.06025
                   4.0269
                   3.53949
3.04085
-2-16923
-2.19883
-2-15247
                   2.54345
-2.03318
                   2.05834
-1.84265
                   1 - 59 658
-1.57955
                   1.17213
-1.23706
                   .809351
-.806264
                   .56055
-.313676
                   . 49 24 08
-1.38063E-02
                   .50097
(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?
```

And, finally, a terminal plot of the program, COILMP on page 28, is shown below:

```
GET-COILMP
10 READ X8, X9, Y8, Y9, ZØ
20 DATA -5,5,-5,5,0
30 GOSUB 9000
265 IF X5=999 THEN 715
266 LET Z0=20+1
285 GOSUB 9100
330
660 GOSUB 9100
690 GOSUB 9100
715 GOSUB 9200
APP-TTYPLO
COILMP
(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?
(X.Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?
(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?
(X,Y) STARTING PT. ON FIELD LINE?
MAX Y= 5
 3
             3
                                3
                   1212122 2
                      3
 MIN Y=-5 MIN X=-5
                          MAX X= 5
```

Again, the strategy used in this program is entirely general. The magnetic field,  $\overrightarrow{B(r)}$ , for any current distribution can be calculated from the Biot-Savart Law: sets of short wire segments; open-wound, short solenoids; sets of square coils; anything at all. A number of possible cases are treated in the exercises at the end of the chapter.

# CONCLUSION

This chapter has introduced a general method to map magnetic field patterns. Both simple sets of long straight wires were discussed and a completely general procedure based on the Biot-Savart law was presented. By running several situations you can get a good intuitive feel for the behavior of magnetic fields.

# **CHAPTER TWO EXERCISES**

- 1. Consider two long, straight, current-carrying wires parallel to the z-axis. The currents and the points (x,y) at which the wires cut the x-y plane are: +1 at (1,0); +1 at (-1,0).
  - a) Determine the magnetic field along the x-axis from -3 to 3.
  - b) In the region .5 < x < 1.5, -.5 < y < 5, calculate six magnetic flux lines such that the number of flux lines through a given area on the x-axis is proportional to the flux in that region. (Since the field is independent of z, the number of flux lines through a  $\Delta x$  should be proportional to the average magnetic field on that region.)
  - c) In the region -3 < x < 3, -3 < y < 3, calculate six magnetic flux lines such that the number of flux lines through a given region is proportional to the field in that region.
  - d) In the region close to each wire, how does the field compare to that of a single current-carrying wire? In the region far away from all the wires, how does the field compare to that of a single current-carrying wire?
- 2. Consider two long current-carrying wires parallel to the z-axis. The currents and the points (x,y) at which the wires cut the x-y plane are: +1 at (1,0); -1 at (-1,0).
  - a) Determine the magnetic field along the x-axis from 3 to 3.
  - b) In the region .5 < x < 1.5, -.5 < y < 5, calculate six magnetic flux lines such that the number of flux lines through a given area on the x-axis is proportional to the flux in that region. (Since the field is constant in the z direction the number of flux lines through a  $\triangle x$  should be proportional to the average magnetic field on that region.)
  - c) In the region -3 < x < 3, -3 < y < 3, calculate six magnetic flux lines such that the number of flux lines through a given region is proportional to the field in that region.
  - d) In the region close to each wire, how does the field compare to that of a single current-carrying wire? In the region far away from all the wires, how does the field compare to a single current-carrying wire?
- Consider the simple case of a single loop of current-carrying wire.
   Say the loop lies in the y-z plane centered at the origin with a radius of one and carries a current of one.
  - a) Using the Biot-Savart law and the computer integration method, calculate the magnetic field at several points along the x-axis. (x = 0, 1, 5, 10).

- b) It is possible to calculate these axial fields analytically. Do so and compare the analytical results with the ones obtained from the computer method.
- c) Evaluate the magnetic field along the y-axis out to the edge of the coil.
- d) Calculate the flux line pattern in the y-z plane through the coil.
- 4. Consider the case of four current-carrying wires parallel to the z-axis. The currents and the points (x,y) at which the wires cut the x-y plane are: +1 at (1.5,1); -1 at (-1.5,1); +1 at (.5,-1); and -1 at (-.5,-1).
  - a) Sketch the flux lines close to each wire. Now sketch the whole flux line distribution.
  - b) Calculate the flux line pattern for this distribution.
- 5. Consider the case of four current-carrying wires parallel to the z-axis. The currents and the points (x,y) at which the wires cut the x-y plane are +3 at (2,0); -3 at (-2,0); -1 at (1,0) and +1 at (-1,0).
  - a) Sketch the flux lines close to each wire. Now sketch the whole flux line distribution.
  - b) Calculate the flux line pattern for this distribution.
- 6. Consider a square Helmholtz pair of coils. Let the corners of the square loops be defined by the (x,y,z) points: (+.5,1,1), (.5,1,-1), (.5,-1,-1), (-.5,-1,1), (-.5,-1,1), (-.5,-1,1).
  - a) Calculate the flux line pattern for this distribution. Since it is not rotationally symmetric about the x-axis, calculate it in the x-z plane and then in the plane defined by the point (0,1,1) and the z-axis (i.e., the plane at 45° to both the x-z and y-z planes).
  - b) Compare the axial field to that of the true (circular) Helmholtz pair. Compare both the magnitude of the field and the uniformity of the field in the center of each pair.
- Consider an infinite current-carrying cylinder of radius one. Model the cylinder as sixteen infinitely long wires parallel to the z-axis.
  - a) Calculate the field distribution for this pattern.
  - b) How well does this compare to the Biot-Savart law inside the cylinder? Outside the cylinder how does it compare in magnitude and shape to a single wire at the origin with a current of sixteen?

- 8. The field for an electric dipole was given in Chapter 1, Exercise 10. How well does the magnetic field of a simple loop in the x-y plane of radius 1 compare to the dipole equation when you are far away from the loop? Use the distance of ten for your comparison. What dipole moment, p, is necessary to make the magnitudes agree? How does this dipole moment vary with the current in the loop?
- 9. Flux lines are not the only method of studying magnetic fields. Write a program similar to the equipotential character mapping program to print like characters for regions with the magnitude of |B| equal. This method could be useful for determining regions of constant field.
  - a) Use your program to study the field pattern in Exercise 1.
  - b) Use your program to study the field pattern in Exercise 2.
- Consider a solenoid of radius 1 along the x-axis five units long centered at the origin. (Approximate the solenoid by five currentcarrying loops).
  - a) Calculate the field line distribution.
  - b) Using the field line mapping program or the field magnitude program of Exercise 9, determine what current should be run through the end coils to make the field inside the solenoid more uniform.

# CHAPTER THREE: THE MOTION OF CHARGED PARTICLES IN ELECTRO - STATIC AND MAGNETOSTATIC FIELDS

# INTRODUCTION

Many students believe that charged particles move along field lines. Except in very rare instances, charged particles do not move along field lines. Although the direction of the field line at any point defines the direction of the force at that point, the force only changes the velocity not the position itself. Once it is moving, the charged particle will, in general, cross field lines because of inertia. (If the particle moves through a very viscous medium, you can force the particle to stay on a field line.)

This chapter introduces a way to calculate the trajectories of charged particles in any (combination of) electrostatic and magnetostatic fields. Those of you who have seen  $\overrightarrow{F} = \overrightarrow{ma}$  algorithmic solutions with a computer before (probably in mechanics) will recognize the discussion in this chapter. The chapter is based on an algorithmic solution for particle trajectories when the forces are due to  $\overrightarrow{E}$  and  $\overrightarrow{B}$ .

The forces on charged particles in electrostatic and magnetostatic fields are discussed in physics textbooks. The force on a charged particle in an electrostatic field,  $\vec{E}$ , is just  $\vec{F}(\vec{r}) = q\vec{E}(\vec{r})$ , where q is the value of the charge. The force on a charged particle in a magnetic field (or, more correctly, magnetic induction),  $\vec{B}$ , is the Lorentz force,  $\vec{F}(\vec{r}) = q(\vec{v}(\vec{r}) \times \vec{B}(\vec{r}))$ . In combined electrostatic and magnetostatic fields, the force is  $\vec{F} = q(\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B})$ .

# AN ALGORITHMIC SOLUTION TO NEWTON'S SECOND LAW

 $\vec{F} = \vec{ma}$  is Newton's Second Law and is the basis of classical calculations of particle trajectories. In most physical situations, you know the force,  $\vec{F}(\vec{r})$ . Hence, you know the acceleration  $\vec{a}(\vec{r}) = \vec{F}(\vec{r})/m$ . Given a way to find the acceleration at any point in space, the computer can easily be programmed to find the trajectory of any particle.

Suppose you know a point,  $\vec{r}=(x,y,z)$ , on the trajectory of a particle and also know the particle's velocity,  $\vec{v}=(v_X,v_y,v_z)$  at that point. (You usually know  $\vec{r}$  and  $\vec{v}$  at the initial point of the trajectory.) Suppose you want to find the position a short time,  $\Delta t$ , later. From the acceleration, you can find the change in the velocity of the particle in the time,  $\Delta t$ :  $\overrightarrow{\Delta v}=\overrightarrow{a}\Delta t$ . Then, the new velocity after the time,  $\Delta t$ , is

$$\vec{v}_{\text{new}} = \vec{v}_{\text{old}} + \vec{\Delta v}$$
 (8)

From the velocity, you can find the change in position  $\vec{r}$  during the time  $\Delta t$ , since

$$\overrightarrow{\Delta r} = \overrightarrow{v} \Delta t \tag{9}$$

Hence, the next position on the particle's trajectory is

$$\dot{r}_{\text{new}} = \dot{r}_{\text{old}} + \dot{v}\Delta t \tag{10}$$

The new time is  $t_{new} = t_{old} + \Delta t$ .

Now that you know another point on the trajectory, the process can be repeated over and over. The result is the trajectory of the particle as it moves through the force,  $\vec{F}(\vec{r})$ . We will discuss two cases: the first is the motion of charged particles in electrostatic fields, and the second is the motion of charged particles in combinations of electrostatic and magnetostatic fields. The second case is somewhat more complicated because the force on a charged particle in a magnetic field is velocity-dependent.

# THE MOTION OF A CHARGED PARTICLE IN AN ELECTROSTATIC FIELD, $\overrightarrow{E}$

The force on a charged particle in an electrostatic field,  $\vec{E}$ , is just  $\vec{F} = q\vec{E}$ . You can calculate the electrostatic field,  $\vec{E}$ , for any distribution of point source charges and line source charges. The field for a point source charge is  $\vec{E} = k_0 \ Q/r^2 \ (\vec{r}/r)$  where Q is the value of the source charge and  $\vec{r}$  is the distance from the source charge,  $r = |\vec{r}|$ . The field for a line source charge is  $\vec{E} = k_0 \lambda/r \ (\vec{r}/r)$  where  $\lambda$  is the charge per unit length of the line charge and r is the perpendicular distance from the line charge.  $k_0$  defines the units;  $k_0 = 9 \times 10^9$  in mks units and  $k_0 = 1$  for cgs units. Any general source charge distribution can be treated as a set of point or line charges.

Example 1. Find the trajectory of a positron (a particle with the mass of an electron but opposite (positive) charge) moving under the influence of a uniform  $\vec{E}$  field parallel to the y-axis. Start the trajectory at the origin with velocity (4,0,0).

One program which implements the algorithmic solution discussed above is shown below:

### MTONE

```
READ E1, E2, E3 Set E field
     DATA 0, 1, 0 | Set E field
PRINT "INITIAL X,Y,Z,VX, W, VZ & FINAL T?" | Initial 7, v and
120
     INPUT X,Y,Z,VI, V2, V3, T0
     LET D= . 05 - At
     LET Q0=1-a/m
150
     LET T=Ø
     REM COMPUTE FIELDS, ACCELS., VEL., POSITION, TIME
180
190
     LET A1=Q0*E1-8,
     LET A2=Q0+E2-8
210
     LET A3=Q0*E3-a
220
     IF T>0 THEN 270
     LET V1=V1+A1*D/2
230
240
     LET V2=V2+A2*D/2
                           Initial half sten
     LET V3=V3+A3*D/2
250
     GOTO 300
     LET VI=VI+AI+D-Vx
     LET V2= V2+ A2* D - V
280
     LET V3=V3+A3*D-V
300
     LET X=X+V1+D - New X
310
     LET Y=Y+V2*D-New >
     LET Z=Z+V3*D- New Z
330
     LET T=T+D - New t
340
     LET T9=T9+D
                                                   Print results
     IF ABS(T9-T0/10)/T9>,000001 THEN 380
     PRINT TIXIYIZ
380
     IF T<T0 THEN 180 - Return for next point on trajectory
     GOTO 120 - Return for new trajectory
     END
```

The program uses a half-step method (the velocity is one-half a time step,  $\Delta t$ , away from the position). This half-step method increases the convergence of the procedure and is discussed further in Appendix B. The units used in the program are normalized (because q/m is set to 1) so that fields are measured in units of the charge-to-mass ratio of the particle. For example, since the particle is a positron,  $q/m = +1.759 \times 10^{11}$  in mks units, so a field with  $|\vec{E}| = 1$  actually has  $|\vec{E}| = 5.685 \times 10^{-12}$  V/m.

A run of this program looks like the following:

```
NOW MICHAEL X,Y,Z,VX,VY,VZ & FINAL T? 70,0,0,4,0,0,10 1. 4. .5 0 2. 7.99999 2. 0 3. 12. 4.5 0 4.0001 16. 8. 0 5.00001 24.0001 18. 0 7.00002 28.0001 24.5 0 8.00002 28.0001 24.5 0 8.00002 32.0001 32.0001 0 9.0001 36. 40.5001 0 9.99999 40. 50.0001 0
```

You can plot the trajectory of the particle using MTONE and the terminal plotting discussed in Appendix A. The required changes in the program and a run of the modified program are shown below:

```
MIN Y= 0 MIN X= 0 MAX X= 50 INITIAL X,Y,Z,VX,VY,VZ & FINAL T?
```

For a uniform electrostatic field, the trajectory is a parabola (as can be derived analytically). Consequently, the motion is just like that in a uniform gravitational field. Thus, this particular example can be used to check the numerical method. This check is pursued in a problem at the end of the chapter.

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Modify the program, MTONE, so that it calculates the electrostatic field inside the integration loop. Use the electrostatic field due to a point charge at the origin.

A terminal plot of several orbits in the field of a -1 charge at the origin looks like:

```
READ X8, X9, Y8, Y9, ZØ
   DATA -2,3,-2.5,2.5
20
   GOSUB 9000
3Ø
110
    1F X=999 THEN 405
131
    LET Z0=Z0+1
    LET X0=X
LET Y0=Y
133
134
    LET R3=((X1+X1/2)+2+(Y1+Y1/2)+2)+1.5
185
    LET AI=0
200
    LET A2=0
LET A3=0
210
    LET XØ=X
37 2
37 4
    LET YØ=Y
    GOSUB 9100
    GOSUB 9200
APP-TTYPL 0
RUN
INITIAL X,Y,Z,VX,VY,VZ & FINAL T?
?-1.0.0.0.1.0.7
INITIAL X,Y,Z,VX,VY,VZ & FINAL T?
?-1,0,0,0,1.2,0,15
INITIAL X,Y,Z,VX,VY,VZ & FINAL T?
7999,0,0,0,0,0,0
MAX Y= 2.5
1
                                         2
          2
                                           2
            1
                                         2
                                     2
                            2
MIN Y=-2.5 MIN X=-2
                           MAX X = 3
END
```

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Plot the position of the source charge on the terminal plot.

These trajectories can also be calculated analytically, although with some difficulty. The trajectories are exactly similar to the orbits of a satellite around the earth.

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Modify the program to find the trajectories of a positron in the electrostatic field due to a +1 point charge at (+.5,0,0) and a -1 point charge at (-.5,0,0).

These trajectories cannot be derived analytically. Other source charge distributions are considered in the problems at the end of the chapter.

# THE MOTION OF CHARGED PARTICLES IN COMBINED ELECTROSTATIC AND MAGNETOSTATIC FIELDS

The algorithmic solution for charged particle trajectories becomes more difficult when the force is velocity-dependent. The program discussed above for electrostatic fields calculates the velocity a half- $\Delta t$  time step away from the position and the acceleration. Since the acceleration needs the value of the velocity at the acceleration's own time, an estimate of this un-half-stepped velocity must be made. This estimated velocity can then be used to find the acceleration.

Example 2. Find the trajectory of a positron starting at (-1,0,0) with velocity (0,1,0) in a uniform magnetic field of magnitude (q/m) parallel to the z-axis.

The following listing is for a program which implements the algorithmic trajectory calculation for charges moving in combined electrostatic and magnetostatic fields.

### MTONEB

```
READ E1, E2, E3, B1, B2, B3
     DATA 0,0,0,0,0,1
PRINT "INITIAL X,Y,Z,VX,VY,VZ & FINAL T?"
110
     INPUT X,Y,Z,V1, V2, V3, T0
     LET D= . 05
     LET Q0=1
150
     LET T9=0
180
     LET AI=0
     LET A2=0
200
     LET A3=0
     REM COMPUTE FIELDS, ACCELS., VEL., POSITION, TIME
210
220
     LET UI=VI+AI*D/2
230
     1.ET U2=V2+A2*D/2
240
     LET U3=V3+A3*D/2
250
     LET A1=Q0*(E1+(U2*B3-U3*B2))
     LET A2=Q0*(E2+(U3*B1-U1*B3))
270
     LET A3=QØ*(E3+(U1*B2-U2*B1))
     IF T>0 THEN 330
28 Ø
     LET VI=VI+AI*D/2
300
    LET V2=V2+A2*D/2
LET V3=V3+A3*D/2
310
     GOTO 360
    LET V1=V1+A1*D
LET V2=V2+A2*D
330
340
35Ø
     LET V3=V3+A3+D
     LET X=X+V1*D
370
     LET Y=Y+V2*D
     LET Z=Z+V3*D
38 Ø
     LET T=T+D
400
     LET T9=T9+D
     IF ABS(T9-T0/10)/T9>.000001 THEN 440
410
```

```
430 PRINT T,X,Y,Z
440. IF T<TØ THEN 210
450 PRINT
460 GOTO 120
470 END
```

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Annotate the program by written comments next to each line.

A run of this program for the initial conditions given is:

RUN MITONEB

```
INITIAL X,Y,Z,VX,VY,VZ & FINAL T?
?-1,0,0,0,1,0,10
                -.539729
                                  .841534
                 -989278
                                  . 137948
 4.00001
                 • 64953
                                 -. 759143
 5.00001
                                 -.956982
 6.00001
                -.962105
                                 - . 273279
 7.00002
                -.749406
                                  . 662207
 8.00002
                 . 153069
                                  .987741
 9.00001
                  914021
                                   403409
9.99999
                 .832466
                                 -.552571
INITIAL X,Y,Z,VX,VY,VZ & FINAL T?
```

The motion is a circle as is expected from the analytic solution. A sensitive test of the accuracy of this computer-based method is an examination of the magnitude of the velocity as the particle moves around the circle. The matter of accuracy is examined further in an exercise at the end of the chapter.

Motion in a magnetic field often involves all three directions, x, y and z. Hence, the motion is often hard to plot on a two-dimensional piece of paper.

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Modify the program to compute trajectories when both a uniform electric field in the y direction and a uniform magnetic field in the z direction are present.

Such a field configuration is called a velocity selector. When the initial velocity of the charged particle has magnitude  $|\overrightarrow{E}|/|\overrightarrow{B}|$  and is perpendicular to both fields, the trajectory is a straight line. Thompson used this field arrangement in his early measurement of (e/m) for electrons. When the velocity is not perpendicular to both fields, the motion can be quite complicated.

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Modify the program to find the trajectories of a positron when both the electrostatic field due to a point charge at the origin and a uniform magnetic field in the z direction are present.

Analytical methods won't produce these trajectories even though the changes necessary in the algorithmic program are minimal. Further physical field situations are considered in the problems at the end of the chapter.

# CONCLUSION

This chapter introduced a way to calculate the trajectories of charged particles in electrostatic and magnetostatic fields. The method works for arbitrary fields and for any charged particle. The method is general but easy to understand. By running several examples you can gain a good understanding of the motions of charged particles in e & m fields.

### CHAPTER THREE EXERCISES

- Consider the motion of a positron in the electric field created by an infinitely long line charge. The charge is along the z-axis and has a magnitude of +1 coulomb/m.
  - a) Determine the trajectory of a positron initially travelling in the z direction starting at (1,0,0) with a velocity of one.
  - b) Determine the trajectory of a positron initially travelling with a velocity of (5,0,0) and an initial position of (-40,1,0).
  - c) Does the angle of deflection of the positron change with the different y values for its starting point in part (b)? Try y=.5, y=2, and y=5.
  - d) What happens when the charge on the line is changed to the charge on a (negative) electron?
  - e) Will the electric field ever be able to hold the positron (i.e., will the positron ever orbit the line charge)?
- Consider the motion of an electron in the electric field created by two infinitely long line charges. The charges are parallel to the z-axis, each with a line charge density of -1. The line charges intersect the x-y plane at the points (0,2) and (0,-2).
  - a) Determine the trajectory of an electron initially travelling in the z direction starting at the origin with a velocity of one.
  - b) Determine the trajectory of an electron initially travelling with a velocity of (5,0,0) and an initial position of (-20,0,0).
  - c) Does the angle of deflection of the positron change with the different y values for its starting point in part (b)? Try y=-1, y=-.5, y=.5, y=1.
  - d) What happens when the charge on the line is changed to the charge on one (negative) electron?

- 3. Consider the motion of a positron in the electric field created by two point charges. The charges and positions are: -1 at (3,0,0) and -1 at (-3,0,0).
  - a) What happens to the positron with the initial conditions: position (0,8,0) and velocity (.45,0,0)?
  - b) What happens to the positron with the initial conditions: position (4,0,0) and velocity (0,1,0)?
  - c) What happens to the positron with the initial conditions: position (3,0,3) and velocity (0,.5,0)?
  - d) Try other trajectories that you think might be interesting.
- 4. Consider the motion of a positron in the electric field created by a dipole charge distribution. The charges and positions are: -1 at (3,0,0) and +1 at (-3,0,0).
  - a) What happens to the positron with the initial conditions: position (0,8,0) and velocity (.45,0,0)?
  - b) What happens to the positron with the initial conditions: position (-4,0,0) and velocity (0,1,0)?
  - c) What happens to the positron with the initial conditions: position (4,0,0) and velocity (0,1,0)?
  - d) What happens to the positron with the initial conditions: position (3,0,3) and velocity (0,.5,0)?
  - e) Try other trajectories you think might be interesting.
- 5. Constant magnetic fields are sometimes used as simple electron beam collimators. Suppose we have a constant magnetic field in the z direction of magnitude (e/m).
  - a) What happens to an electron with initial position at the origin and initial velocity (0,0,1)?
  - b) What happens to an electron with initial position at the origin and initial velocity (0,1,1).
  - c) What happens to an electron with initial position at the origin and initial velocity (0,1,0).
  - d) How does this field act as a simple collimator?
- 6. Consider the diverging field  $B_X = 0$ ,  $B_Y = 1/x^2$ , and  $B_Z = 1/x^2$ .
  - a) What happens to a positron with initial position of (20,0,0) and initial velocity of (-1,0,0). This is often called a magnetic mirror because the field pattern reflects charged particles. Two such mirrors contain charged particles between them and are often called magnetic bottles.

- b) What happens to the velocity in the x direction?
- c) Is energy conserved?
- 7. Consider the combined electric and magnetic field problem discussed in the chapter (the velocity selector with a uniform  $\overrightarrow{E} = q/m$  in the y direction and a uniform  $\overrightarrow{B} = q/m$  in the z direction).
  - a) Verify that those particles that are perpendicular to both  $\overrightarrow{E}$  and  $\overrightarrow{B}$  and have a velocity of  $|\overrightarrow{E}|/|\overrightarrow{B}|$  pass through this field as if the field did not exist.
  - b) In what direction do the particles move if  $|\vec{E}|/|\vec{B}|$  is greater than or less than the velocity?
  - c) In what direction do the particles move if the x-component of velocity is  $|\overrightarrow{E}|/|\overrightarrow{B}|$  but the electron has some velocity in the y direction?
  - d) In what direction do the particles move if the x-component of velocity is  $|\vec{E}|/|\vec{B}|$  but the electron has some velocity in the z direction?
  - e) Determine analytically that  $V_X = |\overrightarrow{E}|/|\overrightarrow{B}|$  for the velocity selector.
- 8. Consider a uniform magnetic field of .1 in the z direction and a point charge of +1 at the origin.
  - a) If an electron has an initial position of (1,0,0) and velocity of (0,1,0), what does its trajectory look like?
  - b) If an electron has an initial position of (1,0,0) and velocity of (0,0,1), what does its trajectory look like?
- The uniform electric field problem is similar to the acceleration of a body under the influence of gravity.
  - Write down the analytical expression in component form for the position of a particle as a function of time (including its initial velocity).
  - b) Compare the results of the program MTONE to the analytical expression at the times t = 2, 5, and 10.
- 10. The solution to the problem of a positron moving in a constant magnetic field is a good problem to check the iterative solution because there is an analytical solution. Start the charged particle with initial velocity perpendicular to the magnetic field.
  - a) Determine (analytically) the radius of the (circular) orbit as a function of the charge, mass, magnetic field, and velocity.

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- b) Determine the period of the motion as a function of the magnetic field, charge, and mass. (The frequency associated with this period is called the cyclotron frequency.)
- c) Compare your results with that obtained by the algorithmic method.
- d) The analytical solution has  $|\overrightarrow{V}| = constant$ . Check your iterative solution by examining how constant  $|\overrightarrow{V}|$  remains as time passes.

# CHAPTER FOUR: GAUSS'S, AMPERE'S, AND FARADAY'S LAWS FOR STATIC FIELDS

# INTRODUCTION

Gauss's, Ampere's and Faraday's Laws represent the original forms of Maxwell's four equations. Aside from the term Maxwell added to Ampere's Law (which made the set of equations agree with conservation of charge and also predict electromagnetic waves), these four equations represent the basis of all classical electricity and magnetism.

This chapter shows you a way to use the computer to calculate the integrals in Gauss's Laws for  $\overrightarrow{E}$  and for  $\overrightarrow{B}$ , Ampere's Law and Faraday's Law. You can then deal with questions such as "Can this given field be an electrostatic field? If so, where are the charges and what values of charge are present?" or "Can this given field be a magnetostatic field, and, if so, where and of what size are the currents?" (Again we will use the term magnetostatic field for  $\overrightarrow{B}$  even though magnetostatic induction is strictly correct.) In the forms we shall use, the laws can be written as follows:

Gauss's Law for 
$$\vec{E}$$
  $\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A} = 4\pi k_0 q$  (11)

Gauss's Law for 
$$\overrightarrow{B}$$
  $\oint \overrightarrow{B} \cdot \overrightarrow{dA} = 0$  (12)

Ampere's Law 
$$\oint \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{Q} = k_0 I$$
 (13)

Faraday's Law 
$$\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{k} = 0$$
 (14)

(In the general case Faraday's Law says that  $\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{k} = -d\Phi/dt$ , but we are dealing with static cases. Currents are constant in time so the flux,  $\Phi$  does not change.) The symbol  $\oint$  means the closed integral: in Gauss's Laws the closed integral is taken over some surface completely enclosing some volume of space; in Ampere's and Faraday's Laws the closed integral is taken along some contour completely enclosing a surface in space.  $k_0$  defines the units, and q and l are the net enclosed charge and current, respectively.

These laws give a way to examine any field to see if it can represent an electrostatic field  $\vec{E}$  (in which case  $\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{k}$  must be zero everywhere and  $\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{k}$  can tell you the values of the charges present) or a magnetostatic field  $\vec{B}$  (in which case  $\oint \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{k}$  must be zero everywhere and  $\oint \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{k}$  can tell you the values of the currents present). These integral forms of the four basic laws also determine the four differential forms for Maxwell's equations which use vector derivatives (the divergence and the curl).

The chapter starts by presenting a number of pictures representing possible vector fields. These pictures will be examined to see which might represent electrostatic or magnetostatic fields. The chapter will then move on to show you how the computer can be used to deal more quantitatively with fields using the four basic laws in their integral forms. The most general question of how to deal with fields if you are given only a set of measured values throughout some region of space is considered in the exercises at

the end of the chapter. The discussion in the chapter will be given in terms of  $\overrightarrow{E}$  and  $\overrightarrow{B}$  fields, but the methods are applicable to any vector field (such as the gravitational field or the velocity field of a flow pattern).

## PICTURES OF VECTOR FIELDS

It is sometimes helpful to see a number of pictures of possible vector fields. Inspecting the pictures to determine whether or not each picture might represent an electrostatic or magnetostatic (or gravitational or whatever) field exercises your knowledge and comprehension of the basic laws. By inspection, you can often guess whether or not a particular picture could represent an  $\overrightarrow{E}$  or  $\overrightarrow{B}$  field; you can often guess where the source charges or source currents would lie. To be more quantitative, say to find the values of the charges or currents, you need to perform the necessary integrations. The computer helps in two ways: first, the computer can be used to produce the pictures of the fields, and second, the computer can perform the integrations.

There are two common kinds of pictures which are used to represent vector fields for discussion. The first is a figure that shows the vector field represented as arrows at a number of points throughout a region. The second is a field line map such as those discussed in Chapters One and Two. We will concentrate on pictures of the first kind. Let us look at several examples:

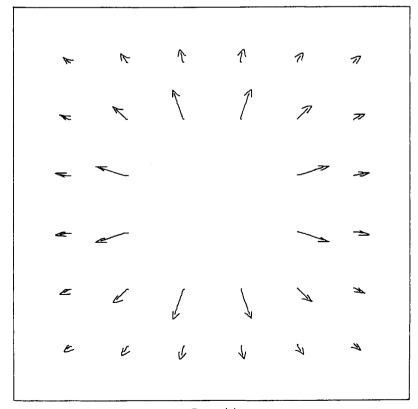


Figure (a)

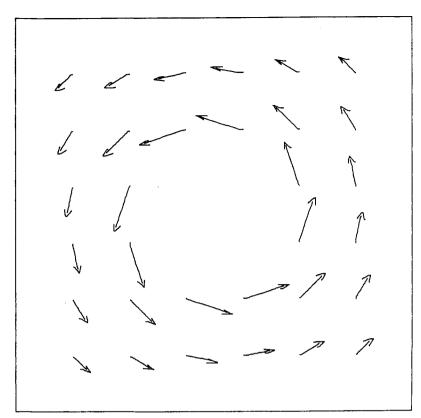


Figure (b)

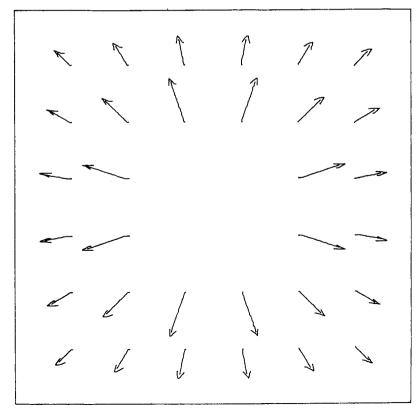


Figure (c)

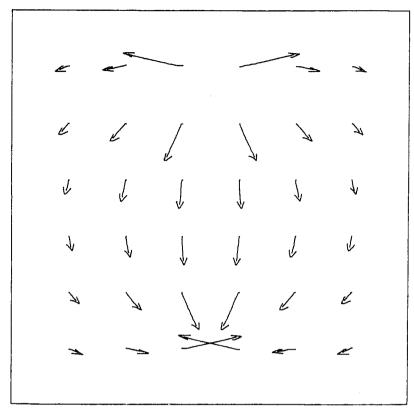


Figure (d)

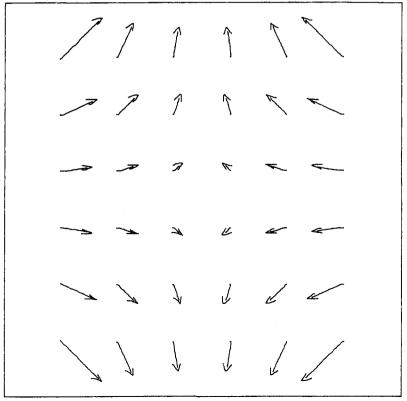


Figure (e)

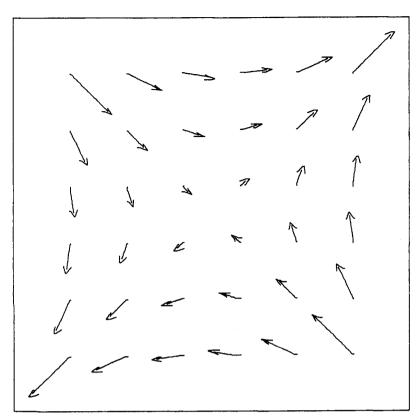


Figure (f)

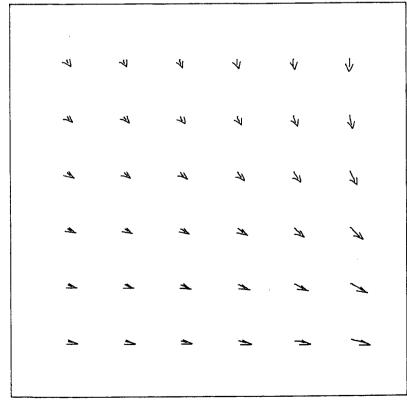


Figure (g)

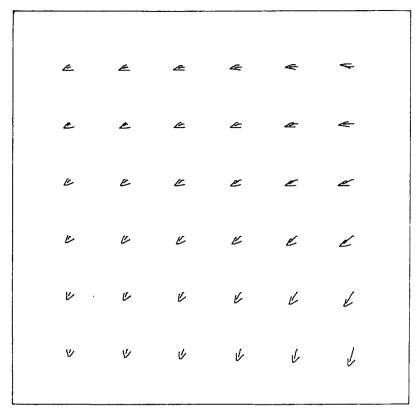


Figure (h)

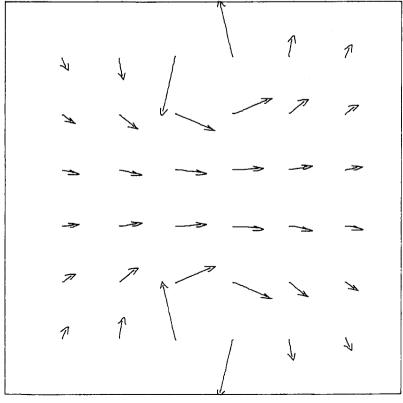


Figure (i)

Which of these figures could represent an electrostatic field? You need to identify those fields for which  $\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{\ell} = 0$  for all (closed) paths. Figure (a) is such a field; it appears possible that adding up  $\vec{E} \cdot \Delta \vec{\ell}$  for small pieces around a contour made up of radial and circumferential pieces would result in zero. In principle, you would have to show that the integral was zero for any possible contour; in practice, if one type of contour has  $\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{\ell} = 0$ , it is likely that almost any contour will also have  $\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{\ell} = 0$ . In the case of Figure (a), it seems clear that any contour which can be approximated by a set of radial and circumferential pieces might obey Faraday's Law ( $\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{\ell} = 0$ ), and that is certainly a wide class of contours.

On those figures you believe could be electrostatic fields, identify the positions and relative values of the source charges. In Figure (a) there seems to be a positive charge at the center of the figure (and an equal amount of negative charge at  $\infty$  on which to terminate the field lines). When several charges are present, you can estimate the relative magnitudes and the signs of the charges by considering the field near each charge.

Which of these figures could represent a magnetostatic field? This is a harder question because you really need to find fields for which  $\oint \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{A} = 0$  and the figures are only two-dimensional. Let us agree that the physical situations represented in the figures have no dependence upon z, that is, that every plane parallel to the x-y plane is equivalent to the x-y plane. Then the x-y plane shown in the figures tells the whole story. Figure (b) seems likely to have  $\oint \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{A} = 0$  for surfaces which are pieces of circular cylinders with z-axis axes connected by radial planes. Again you cannot prove that  $\oint \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{A} = 0$  for all possible surfaces without doing some integrals, but the result looks right.

On those figures you believe could be magnetostatic fields, identify the positions and relative values of the source currents. In figure (b) there seems to be only one source current at the center of the picture. The current appears to come out of the page (by the right-hand rule), so the current is positive although its magnitude cannot be determined without more information. If there were several currents, their relative values could be estimated from the relative strengths of the fields nearby; the directions of the currents could be determined from the directions of the fields nearby.

Now you can try the rest of the figures. It is not difficult for anyone to produce pictures such as those shown. You can do it yourself.

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Write a program to calculate  $|\overrightarrow{E}|$  and the angle  $\overrightarrow{E}$  makes with the x-axis for a number of points on the x-y plane. You may assume  $E_x$ ,  $E_y$ ,  $E_z$  are given as equations.

# SURFACE AND LINE INTEGRALS WITH THE COMPUTER

Now let us see how to be more quantitative. It is easy to do the integrals involved in Gauss's, Ampere's and Faraday's Laws on the computer. An exact integration would have to be analytical, but most field patterns cannot be integrated analytically. The method of integration we will present is approximate (although the method can be made accurate as desired) but it can integrate the necessary surface and line integrals for any vector field.

To perform the line integral, you break the contour up into small segments,  $\overrightarrow{\Delta\ell}$ , evaluate the field,  $\overrightarrow{F}$ , at the center of each segment, and form the dot-products  $\overrightarrow{F} \circ \Delta \overrightarrow{\ell}$ . Adding up the terms  $\overrightarrow{F} \circ \Delta \overrightarrow{\ell}$  for all the segments that form a closed loop yields an approximation to  $\oint \overrightarrow{F} \circ d\overrightarrow{\ell}$  for the vector field  $\overrightarrow{F}$ . Again, in the limit of the sum of infinitesimal segments,  $d\overrightarrow{\ell}$ , the result would be exact.

To perform the surface integral, you break the surface up into small areas,  $\overrightarrow{\Delta A}$ , evaluate the field,  $\overrightarrow{F}$ , at the center of each small area, and form the dot-products  $\overrightarrow{F} \cdot \overrightarrow{\Delta A}$ . Adding up the terms  $\overrightarrow{F} \cdot \overrightarrow{\Delta A}$  for all the small areas forming a closed surface is then an approximation to the integral  $\oint \overrightarrow{F} \cdot d\overrightarrow{A}$  for the vector field  $\overrightarrow{F}$ . In the limit of the sum infinite simal areas,  $\overrightarrow{dA}$ , is by definition the integral; for finite  $\overrightarrow{\Delta A}$ , the sum is an approximation.

Example 1. Evaluate  $\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{A}$  for the vector electrostatic field,  $\vec{F}$ , due to a line charge coinciding with the z-axis. Consider rectangular parallelepiped surfaces.

A program to find this surface integral might look like the following:

```
GAUSS
```

```
PRINT "(X,Y,Z) FOR 2 CORNERS?" Set region
     INPUT X1, Y1, Z1, X2, Y2, Z2
    LET P0=0-Flux
LET N0=16 - # of segments in x, y and z
120
130
    LET KØ=1-Units
    LET Q=+1- Magnitude of charge
LET X0=(X2-X1)/N0-\Delta x
150
160
     LET Y0=(Y2-Y1)/N0- AV
180
     LET ZØ=(Z2-Z1)/NØ - Az
     LET AG=X0+Y0- AA
190
     FOR X=X1+X0/2 TO X2-X0/2 STEP X0
200
     FOR Y=Y1+Y0/2 TO Y2-Y0/2 STEP Y0
220
     LET F3=K0+Q+Z2/(X+X+Y+Y+Z2+Z2)
                                               Two X-Y
     LET PO=PO+F3*A0
230
     LET F3=K0+Q+Z1/(X+X+Y+Y+Z2+Z2)
                                               Z1 and Z2
250
     LET PØ=PØ-F3*AØ
     NEXT Y
260
27 Ø
     NEXT X
280
     LET AØ=YØ*ZØ- AA
     FOR Y=Y1+Y0/2 TO Y2-Y0/2 STEP Y0
FOR Z=Z1+Z0/2 TO Z2-Z0/2 STEP Z0
29 Ø
300
     LET F1=K0+Q+X2/(X2+X2+Y+Y+Z+Z)
                                               Two Y-Z
320
     LET PØ=PØ+F1+AØ
     LET F1=K0+Q+X1/(X1+X1+Y+Y+Z+Z)
33Ø
      LET P0=P0-F1+A0
350
     NEXT Z
     NEXT Y
360
     LET A0=X0+Z0-A4
     FOR X=X1+X0/2 TO X2-X0/2 STEP X0
FOR Z=Z1+Z0/2 TO Z2-Z0/2 STEP Z0
38 Ø
39 Ø
     LET F2=K0+Q+Y2/(X+X+Y2+Y2+Z+Z)
400
      LET P0=P0+F2+A0
                                               Two X-Z
     LET F2=K0+Q+Y1/(X+X+Y1+Y1+Z+Z)
420
      LET PØ=PØ-F2*AØ
430
      NEXT Z
450
     NEXT X
      PRINT "FLUX ="; PØ
460
47 Ø
      PRINT
      GOTO 100
      END
```

The field,  $\overrightarrow{F}=(F1,F2,F3)$ , is the electrostatic field due to a line charge at the origin  $[k_0\lambda/r(\overrightarrow{r}/|\overrightarrow{r}|)]$ , so  $\oint \overrightarrow{F} \cdot \overrightarrow{dA}$  should be zero unless the region enclosed by the rectangular parallelepiped encloses the z-axis. When the z-axis is enclosed,  $\oint \overrightarrow{F} \cdot \overrightarrow{dA}$  should equal  $4\pi k_0\lambda(Z2-Z1)$ . A run of this Gauss's Law program looks like:

#### RUN GAUSS

(X,Y,Z) FOR 2 CORNERS? ?-1,-1,-1,1,1,1 FLUX = 15.3603 (X,Y,Z) FOR 2 CORNERS?

(X,Y,Z) FOR 2 CORNERS? ?1,1,1,2,2,2 FLUX = .217896

(X,Y,Z) FOR 2 CORNERS? ?1,1,1,2,2,3 FLUX = .355734

(X,Y,Z) FOR 2 CORNERS?

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> How much charge lies along the line charge between Z = 0 and z = 2? What is the linear charge density,  $\lambda$ ? Does this value agree with the equations in the program?

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Modify the program for line charges having  $\lambda = +1$  and -1 which are parallel to the z-axis and cut the x-y plane at (+.5,0) and (-.5,0), respectively. Where should the surface integral be zero and where non-zero?

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Modify the program for a long, straight wire carrying current I which coincides with the z-axis. (Remember that  $\vec{B}$  is perpendicular to  $\vec{r}$ .) Where should the surface integral be zero and where nonzero?

Further examples are considered in the exercises at the end of the chapter. The field,  $\vec{F}$ , can be given as equations or even as data.

Example 2. Evaluate  $\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{k}$  for the vector magnetostatic field due to a long, straight wire carrying a current of 1 ampere and coinciding with the z-axis. Consider rectangular contours lying in the x-y plane.

A program to evaluate the line integral might look like:

#### AMPFAR

```
100 PRINT "(X,Y) FOR 2 CORNERS?"
     INPUT X1,Y1,X2,Y2
    LET LØ=Ø
130
    LET NØ=512
140
    LET KØ=1.E-Ø7
    LET X0=(X2-X1)/N0
    LET Y0=(Y2-Y1)/N0
     FOR X=X1+X0/2 TO X2-X0/2 STEP X0
190
    LET F=-2*X0*I*Y1/(X*X+Y1*Y1)
200
    LET LOWLG+F*XO
210
    LET F=-2*K0*I*Y2/(X*X+Y2*Y2)
     LET LO=LO-F*X0
230
    NEXT X
     FOR Y=Y1+Y0/2 TO Y2-Y0/2 STEP Y0
240
    LET F=2*KØ*I*X1/(X1*X1+Y*Y)
260
    LET L0=L0-F*Y0
LET F=2*K0*I*X2/(X2*X2+Y*Y)
27 0
     LET LO=LO+F+Y0
    NEXT Y
PRINT "LINE INTEGRAL ="; L0
29 Ø
300
    PRINT
     GOTO 100
330
    EN D
```

Since  $\overrightarrow{F}=(F1,F2,F3)$  is due to a long straight wire  $(\mu_0I/2\pi r)$ , tangential with sense by the right-hand rule), you expect  $\oint \overrightarrow{F} \cdot d\overrightarrow{\ell}$  to equal zero unless the rectangular contour encloses the z-axis. When the contour encloses the z-axis, you expect  $\oint \overrightarrow{F} \cdot d\overrightarrow{\ell} = \mu_0I$  in mks units. A run of this line integral program looks like:

#### RUN AMPFAR

```
(X,Y) FOR 2 CORNERS?
?-1,-1,1,1
LINE INTEGRAL = 1.25664E-06
(X,Y) FOR 2 CORNERS?
?1,1,2,2
LINE INTEGRAL =-3.77476E-15
(X,Y) FOR 2 CORNERS?
```

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Modify the program for two, long straight wires parallel to the z-axis, carrying currents of +1 and -1, and cutting the x-y plane at (+.5,0) and (-.5,0), respectively. Where should the line integral be zero and where non-zero?

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Modify the program for a single line charge coinciding with the z-axis and having a linear charge density,  $\lambda$ , of +1. Where should the line integral be zero and where non-zero?

Further examples are considered in the problems at the end of the chapter. The vector field  $\overrightarrow{F}$  could be given as equations or as data.

# CONCLUSION

This chapter has displayed pictures of several vector fields. You were asked to try to identify which pictures could represent electrostatic and magnetostatic fields. The chapter then showed you a way to compute the surface and line integrals necessary for Gauss's, Ampere's and Faraday's Laws in order to check vector fields quantitatively. By working a few examples from the exercises, you can deepen your understanding further.

# CHAPTER FOUR EXERCISES

- 1. Consider the field distribution created by four line charges parallel to the z-axis. The line charge densities are: +1 at (1,1), +1 at (1, -1), -1 at (-1,1) and -1 at (-1,-1).
  - a) Consider the region around the (1,1) line. What is the surface integral? Is it dependent on the size of the box around the charge? If so, is it dependent on all lengths or just one? What is the line integral around this point  $(\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{k})$ ? Is it dependent on the size of the contour?
  - b) Consider the region of space for positive x that includes both the lines at (1,1) and (1,-1). What is the surface integral  $(\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{A})$ ? Is it dependent on the size of the box? If so, on what does it depend? What is the line integral  $(\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{V})$  around this region? Is it dependent on the size of the contour?
  - c) Consider the region including all the line charges. What is the surface integral (\$\vec{F} \cdot dA\$)? Is it dependent on the size of the box? If so, how is it dependent? What is the line integral (\$\vec{F} \cdot d\tilde{\text{V}}\)) around the region? Is it dependent on the size of the contour?
  - d) Consider the region inside the four points. What is the surface integral  $(\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{A})$ ? What is the line integral  $(\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{k})$ ?
  - e) Do your results agree with Gauss's and Faraday's Laws?
- 2. Consider the magnetostatic field distribution created by four current lines parallel to the z-axis. The positions and currents are: +1 at (1,1), +1 at (1,-1), -1 at (-1,1) and -1 at (-1,-1).
  - a) Consider the region around the (1,1) line. What is the surface integral  $(\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{A})$ ? Is it dependent on the size of the box around the charge? If so, is it dependent on all lengths or just one? What is the line integral around this point  $(\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{V})$ ? Is it dependent on the size of the contour?
  - b) Consider the region of space for positive x that includes both the lines at (1,1) and (1,-1). What is the surface integral ( $\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{A}$ )? Is it dependent on the size of the box? If so, on what does it depend? What is the line integral ( $\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{Q}$ ) around this region? Is it dependent on the size of the contour?
  - c) Consider the region including all the line charges. What is the surface integral  $(\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{A})$ ? Is it dependent on the size of the box? If so, how is it dependent? What is the line integral  $(\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{X})$  around the region? Is it dependent on the size of the contour?
  - d) Consider the region inside the four points. What is the surface integral ( $\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{A}$ )? What is the line integral ( $\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{Q}$ )?
  - e) Do your results agree with Gauss's and Faraday's Laws?

- 3. Consider a combined electrostatic and magnetostatic field distribution. Part of it is created by two line charges parallel to the z-axis: +3 linear charge density at (1,1) and -3 linear charge density at (-1,1). The other part is created by two line currents parallel to the z-axis with currents and positions: +2 at (1,-1) and -2 at (-1,-1).

  - b) Consider the region of space for positive x that includes both the lines at (1,1) and (1,-1). What is the surface integral  $(\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{A})$ ? Is it dependent on the size of the box? If so, on what does it depend? What is the line integral  $(\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{X})$  around this region? Is it dependent on the size of the contour?
  - c) Consider the region including all the line charges. What is the surface integral  $(\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{A})$ ? Is it dependent on the size of the box? If so, how is it dependent? What is the line integral  $(\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{\hat{\chi}})$  around the region? Is it dependent on the size of the contour?
  - d) Consider the region inside the four points. What is the surface integral  $(\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{A})$ ? What is the line integral  $(\oint \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{k})$ ?
  - e) Do your results agree with Gauss's and Faraday's Laws?
- 4. Consider the following field.

$$F_{x} = 0$$

$$F_{y} = 0$$

$$\begin{cases}
F_{z} = 1 \text{ for } z > 0 \\
F_{z} = 0 \text{ for } z = 0 \\
F_{z} = -1 \text{ for } z < 0
\end{cases}$$

- a) What is the surface integral for the box defined by (-1,-1,-1) and (1,1,1)? If it is not zero, is the surface integral dependent on the size of the box centered at (0,0,0)? In what way?
- b) If the surface integral is not zero, can you identify the charge distribution that creates this field?
- c) What are the line integrals for the square loops defined by (1,1,0) and (-1,-1,0); (1,0,1) and (-1,0,-1); (0,1,1) and (0,-1,-1).
- d) If the line integral is not zero, can you identify the current distribution that creates this field?

5. Consider the following field.

$$F_x = 0$$

$$F_y = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} F_z = 1 \text{ for } x > 0 \\ F_z = 0 \text{ for } x = 0 \\ F_z = -1 \text{ for } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

- a) What is the surface integral for the box defined by (-1,-1,-1) and (1,1,1)? If it is not zero, is the surface integral dependent on the size of the box centered at (0,0,0)? In what way?
- b) If the surface integral is not zero, can you identify the charge distribution that creates this field?
- c) What are the line integrals for the square loops defined by (1,1,0) and (-1,-1,0); (1,0,1) and (-1,0,-1); (0,1,1) and (0,-1,-1).
- d) If the line integral is not zero, can you identify the current distribution that creates this field?
- 6. Consider the following field:

$$\overrightarrow{F} = \overrightarrow{r} * r(2+r^2)$$

- a) What is the surface integral for the box defined by (-1,-1,-1) and (1,1,1)? If it is non-zero, is the surface integral dependent on the size of the box centered at (0,0,0)? In what way?
- b) If the surface integral is not zero, can you identify the charge distribution that creates this field?
- c) Can you prove that the line integral for any field that can be written as  $\overrightarrow{F} = \widehat{rf}(r)$  is zero?
- 7. Not all fields are electric or magnetic. For example, it is often worthwhile to consider velocity fields of fluids. Consider the following fluid velocity field:

$$V_z = 0$$

$$V_{V} = 0$$

$$V_{x} = (1 - y^{2}/4)$$

- a) What is the surface integral for the box defined by (-1,-1,-1) and (1,1,1)? If it is non-zero, is the surface integral dependent on the size of the box centered at (0,0,0)? In what way?
- b) What does this surface integral mean physically (i.e., are there sources or sinks for the fluid within the region)?

- c) What are the line integrals for the square loops defined by (1,1,0) and (-1,-1,0); (1,0,1) and (-1,0,-1); (0,1,1) and (0,-1,-1)?
- d) What is the line integral around the square loop defined by (0,0,0) and (1,1,0)?

# CHAPTER FIVE: THE LAPLACE AND POISSON EQUATIONS

# INTRODUCTION

A combination of Laplace's and Poisson's equations represents one of the fundamental ways to describe electrostatic potentials. (Similar equations arise in many other branches of e & m and of physics in general.) You sometimes know the potential, V, everywhere on some surface that encloses a definite volume, and you want to find the potential throughout that volume. If the volume has a known volume charge density,  $\rho(x,y,z)$  (measured as charge per unit volume), then you can calculate the potential everywhere using Poisson's equation. If the volume charge density,  $\rho$  is zero through the region, then Poisson's equation reduces to Laplace's equation, one of the simplest partial differential equations used commonly in physics.

Poisson's equation in three dimensions is

$$\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial z^2} = 4\pi k_0 \rho(x, y, z)$$
 (15)

When  $\rho(x,y,z) = 0$  you have Laplace's equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial z^2} \equiv 0$$
 (16)

Derivations of these equations and discussions of their analytical solutions can be found in standard physics textbooks.

These equations can be solved easily on a computer, and they represent simple examples of how partial differential equations can be solved numerically. For convenience in displaying results, we will consider two dimensional cases involving only x and y. The method of solution is valid for three dimensions, too, but more complicated partial differential equations sometimes demand more sophisticated methods of numerical solution than the method we will present.

# **DIFFERENCE EQUATIONS**

The simplest method for solving partial differential equations numerically is based on replacing the differential equation (involving infinitesimal dx, dy, dz) by a difference equation (involving finite differences  $\Delta x$ ,  $\Delta y$ ,  $\Delta z$ ). There are three criteria that the resulting difference equation must satisfy: 1) it must represent the partial differential equation correctly in the limit as  $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$ ,  $\Delta y \rightarrow 0$  and  $\Delta z \rightarrow 0$ ; 2) it must be stable (which means that, if a small error occurs at some numerical step, the error must not grow); and 3) it must converge to some value (in other words, it must produce an answer). Laplace's equation is such that a simple difference equation approach can be shown to satisfy all three requirements. If the volume charge density,  $\rho$ , does not vary too wildly in space, the method will also work for Poisson's equation.

We start by defining a grid of points, labelled by i and j (for our two dimensional problems), covering the region where we want to compute the potential, V. How would the first partial derivative,  $\partial V/\partial x$ , be written in terms of the values of  $V_{i,j}$  on the grid points? You could use the forward difference expression for a derivative  $\partial V/\partial x \approx (V_{i+1,j} - V_{i,j})/\Delta x$  or you could use the corresponding backward derivative. A better approximation is called the central difference approximation and uses grid points in front of and behind the grid point (i,j) in question. Then  $\partial V/\partial x \approx (V_{i+1,j} - V_{i-1,j})/(2\Delta x)$ .

The second partial derivative,  $\partial^2 V/\partial x^2$ , equals  $\partial(\partial V/\partial x)/\partial x$  so we can apply the same idea of approximating the partial derivatives by difference quotients. Using the central difference approximation,  $\partial^2 V/\partial x^2 \approx (V_{j+1,j} - 2V_{j,j} + V_{j-1,j})/(\Delta x)^2$ .

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Show that the difference equation approximating  $\partial^2 V/\partial x^2$  comes from two applications of the central difference approximation for the first derivative. The first application gives the first derivatives at (i+.5,j) and (i-.5,j); the second application yields the second derivative at (i,j).

# THE DIFFERENCE EQUATIONS FOR LAPLACE'S AND POISSON'S EQUATIONS

Using the expression for approximations to the second partial derivatives of V on the grid of points, the (two-dimensional) Laplace's equation becomes

$$V_{i+1,j} + V_{i-1,j} + V_{i,j+1} + V_{i,j-1} - 4V_{i,j} = 0$$
 (17)

assuming  $\Delta x = \Delta y$ .

Practice Exercise: Derive this difference equation for Laplace's equation.

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Derive the three-dimensional difference equation for Laplace's equation.

This difference equation can be solved for the potential at the grid point (i,j):

$$V_{i,j} = (V_{i+1,j} + V_{i-1,j} + V_{i,j+1} + V_{i,j-1})/4$$
(18)

which says the potential at (i,j) is the average of the potentials at the nearest neighbor grid points. This equation for V suggests a simple strategy on the computer: Start with any values of the potential inside the region and with the known values on the grid points on the surface; moving sequentially through the interior grid points, replace the inside values by the average of nearest neighbor values; then repeat the process until interior values of the potential stop changing. The boundary values, which remain constant, will gradually influence the values throughout the interior. When all the inside values become equal to the average of their nearest neighbors (that is, after

all the values of the potential at interior points stop changing), then you have found the solution of Laplace's equation with the given potentials on the surface.

Poisson's equation is just as simple. The difference equation (in two dimensions) becomes

$$(V_{j+1,j} + V_{j-1,j} + V_{j,j+1} + V_{j,j-1} - 4V_{j,j}) = R_{j,j} (\Delta S)^{2}$$
 (19)

where  $\Delta x = \Delta y = \Delta S$  and where  $R_{i,j}$  is just the (known) quantity,  $4\pi k_0 \rho(x,y)$ , at the grid point (i,j),  $k_0$  sets the units. Since  $R_{i,j}$  does not change value at each particular (i,j) as you iterate over the grid, programs solving Poisson's equation by the difference equation approach look very similar to those solving Laplace's equation.

Example 1. Find the potential V in a charge-free, two-dimensional, square region given that the potential varies linearly around the edge from V = 0 at one corner to V = 18 at the opposite corner.

A program implementing the iterative strategy to solve Laplace's equation for this problem might look like the following:

### LAPLAC

```
DIM VE 10. 101-110 10. 101
     READ V(1, 1), V(10, 1), V(10, 10), V(1, 10)
110
     LET V0=V(1,13+V(1,103+V(10,103+V(10,1)
     FOR 1=2 TO 9
140
     LET V(1, I)=I-
     LET. V[ 10, []=9+1-1
                                                         Initialize
     LET V(I, 1]=1-1
     LET V(I, 101=9+I-1
180
      LET V0=V0+V[1,1]+V[10,1]+V[1,1]+V[1,10]
     NEXT I
     FOR I=2 TO 9
210
                            Initialize Interior Values
     LET V[1,J]=V0/36
                            to Average of 
Boundary Values
240
     NEXT J
250
     FOR I=1 TO 10
FOR J=1 TO 10
                              Save Old
      LET U[I,J]=V[I,J]
28 Ø
300
     NEXT I
     LET VI=0
310
                                                                        Find New
33Ø
     FOR J=2 TO 9
LET V[I,J]=(U[I+1,J]+U[I-1,J]+U[I,J+1]+U[I,J-
                                                                       Interior
Potentials b,
340
     35Ø
                                                                       Averaging
Neighbor
370
     NEXT J
     NEXT I
38 Ø
      IF VI>.001 THEN 260 - Test for .1% Accuracy
PRINT "# OF ITERATIONS =";M]
400
410
420
      FOR J=10 TO 1 STEP -1
      FOR I=1 TO 10
PRINT V[1,J],
430
                                           Potential
Matrix
440
      NEXT I
450
      PRINT
      NEXT J
```

The program initializes the potential at interior points of the region to the average of the values on the boundary. It is a property of Laplace's equation that the absolute maximum and absolute minimum values of potential must lie on the boundary. Initializing the interior points to the average value saves some time in the calculation.

It turns out that Laplace's equation has the interesting (and unusual) property that, when you average the nearest neighbor potentials, you can use some old values (from the last iteration over the grid) and some new values (from the present iteration). This allows you to use only one storage matrix for the potential.

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Modify the program so that you use only the matrix V and average two old and two new nearest neighbor potentials.

A RUN of the program given above looks like:

#### RUN Laplac

# OF ITERATION:	5 = 34			
9	16	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18
8	9•	9.99882	10.996	11.992
12-9885	13.9868	14.9885	15.9932	17
7	8.00119	9 • 00001	9.99541	10.9885
11.9815	12.9783	13.9803	14.9885	16
6	7.00402	8.00461	9.00001	9.99137
10.9823	11-97 67	12.9783	13.9868	15
5	6.00802	7.01156	8 • 998 65	9 - 00001
9.98955	10.9823	11.9815	12.9885	14
4	5.01156	6.01848	7.01771	8 • 01047
9-00001	9.99137	10.9885	11.992	13
3	4.01325	5.02172	6.0233	7.01771
8 • 008 65	9.00001	9.99541	10.996	12
2	3-01155	4.01967	5.02172	6-01848
7.01156	8-00461	9.00001	9.99882	11
1	2.00683	3.01155	4.01325	5-01156
6.00802	7 - 00401	8.00119	9.	10
Ø	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9

Example 2. Find the potential V throughout a square region, given that the potential on the boundary varies linearly from 0 at one corner to 18 at the opposite corner and that a uniform surface charge density of  $+.5\epsilon_0$  coulombs per m<sup>2</sup> fills the region.

The problem calls for the solution of Poisson's equation in a situation very similar to that above for Laplace's equation. A program that solves this Poisson equation situation might look like:

### POI SSO

```
DIM V(10,101,U(10,10)
     READ V(1,1), V(10,1), V(10,10), V(1,10)
     DATA 0,9,18,9
120
     LET V0=V(1,1)+V(1,10)+V(10,10)+V(10,1)
130
     FOR I=2 TO 9
150
     LET V[1,I]=I-1
LET V[10,I]=9+I-1
160
180
     LET V[ 1, 10] =9+1-1
     LET V0=V0+V[1,13+V[10,13+V[1,13+V[1,10]
196
200
210
     FOR I=2 TO 9
     FOR J=2 TO 9
LET V(I,J)=V0/36
220
230
     NEXT J
250
     NEXT I
     FOR I=1 TO 10
260
     FOR J=1 TO 10
28 Ø
     LET U(I,J)=V(I,J)
     NEXT J
```

```
300 NEXT I
      FOR I=2 TO 9
FOR J=2 TO 9
FOR J=2 TO 9
LET R=-5
LET VII,J]=(U(I+1,J]+U(I-1,J]+U(I,J+1]+U(I,J-13+R)/4
IF ABS((VII,J)-UI,J))/VII,J)>VI THEN 380
320
330
35Ø
360
         LET VI=ABS((VCI,J)-UCI,J))/VCI,J))
38 Ø
39 Ø
         NEXT J
         NEXT I
        NEXT I

LET M=M+1

IF VI>.001 THEN 260

PRINT "0 OF ITERATIONS =";M

FOR J=10 TO 1 STEP -1

FOR I=1 TO 10

PRINT V(I,J),
400
410
420
430
450
         NEXT I
460
         PRINT
48 Ø
         NEXT J
49 Ø
         END
```

Practice Exercise: Annotate the Poisson program by written comments by each line.

A run of this program looks like:

RUN	
POI	SSO

F OF ITERATI	ONS = 48 10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18
8	9 • 587 38	10.927	12.1182	13.2048
14.2044	15.1172	15.9259	16.5866	17
7	8.92723	10.5112	11.8531	13-0106
14-0099	14.8513	15-5091	15.9259	16
6	8 • 1 19 Ø 6	9.85412	11.2951	12.5007
13-4998	14.2926	14.8513	15.1172	15
5	7.20652	9.0131	10.5026	11.7322
12.7311	13-4998	14.0099	14.2044	14
4	6 • 2069	8.01384	9.50357	10-7333
11.7322	12.5007	13.0106	13.2048	13
3	5-12005	6.85596	8 • 29 7 63	9.50357
10.5026	11 • 29 5 1	11.8531	12.1182	12
2	3.92835	5.51334	6.85596	8 - 01384
9.0131	9.85412	10.5112	10.927	11
1	2.58811	3.92835	5.12005	6.2069
7.20652	8-11906	8 • 9 27 23	9 • 58 7 38	10
0	1	. 2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9

Notice that the final interior values have changed from those of the Laplace solution. The symmetries have been maintained because the charge density is uniform.

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Identify lines of symmetry in the values of potential.

Terminal plotting can also be used in a manner similar to the terminal plotting of potential done in Chapter One.

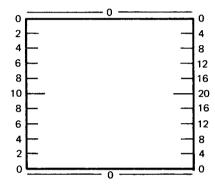
Practice Exercise: Modify the Laplace and Poisson programs to print out characters representing the values of the potential at each point on the grid.

# CONCLUSION

The Laplace and Poisson equations are very basic to electrostatics. This chapter showed you one way to solve these equations with the computer. The numerical method of solution presented is also applicable to other partial differential equations arising in physics.

# **CHAPTER FIVE EXERCISES**

1. Consider the square region with the boundary potentials:



(constant zero potential on two sides and increasing linearly to the midpoint then decreasing to zero again on the other sides).

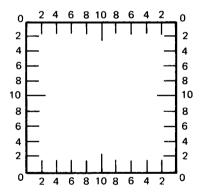
- a) Determine the potential inside the region.
- b) From a character plot of the potential in the region, draw several equipotentials.
- c) Describe the symmetries in the potential.
- 2. With the boundary potential described in Exercise 1, calculate the potential in the region when there is a uniform charge density of  $-.5\epsilon_0$  coulombs/m<sup>2</sup> throughout the region.
  - a) From a character plot of the potential in the region, draw several equipotentials.
  - b) Describe the symmetries in the potential.
- 3. Consider the following line charges parallel to the z-axis: +1 at (6,0); +1 at (-6,0); +1 at (0,6); and +1 at (0,-6).
  - a) Using the method discussed in Chapter 1, determine the potential in the square defined by the corners [5,5] and [-5,-5]. (Find the value of the potential on a grid with ten points on each side.)
  - b) Use the values of the potential obtained in Part (a) for the potentials on the edges of the square region defined by the corners [5,5] and [-5,-5]. Use Laplace's equation and determine the potential inside this region.

- c) Compare the results obtained by the two methods (Parts (a) and (b)) for interior points.
- 4. The symmetries observed in the potential pattern in the text and Exercise 1 can be used to cut down the number of points at which the potential needs to be evaluated. For any symmetric pattern, we only need to calculate the potential for a smaller region of space and then use the symmetry to copy the potential into the other regions.

Consider the potential in Exercise 1. If you consider the pattern centered at the origin the pattern above the x-axis is mirrored below the x-axis. To solve the problem using the symmetry, set the potential the same way for positive y but when you solve for the potential along the x-axis (the line of symmetry), consider the value of each point just below the axis to be the same as the value of the point just above the axis. The grid point equation for this line of symmetry becomes:

$$V_{i,j} = (V_{i+1,j} + V_{i-1,j} + 2V_{i,j-1})/4.$$

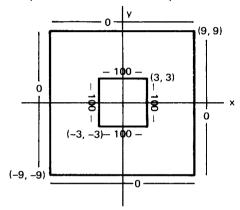
- a) Resolve the potential for Exercise 1 taking advantage of the symmetry.
- b) Resolve the potential in Example 2 in the text using the symmetry along the diagonal.
- 5. Consider the square region with the potential along the edges defined by:



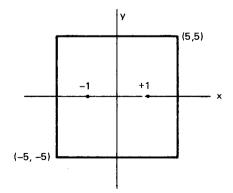
(with all edges identical, with the corners at zero potentials, and the potential increasing linearly in from the corners to the midpoint where the potential is ten.)

- a) What are the symmetries?
- b) Taking advantage of all of the symmetries, calculate the potential inside the region. Make a character plot of the potential values.
- c) Draw in some of the equipotentials.
- 6. Consider the same square region as Exercise 4 but with a uniform charge density of  $.5\epsilon_0$  (|x| + |y|) coulombs per m<sup>2</sup> throughout the region.

- b) Taking advantage of all of the symmetries, calculate the potential inside the region.
- c) Make a character plot of the full region and draw the equipotential lines,
- 7. Consider the following potential: a square boundary with a potential of zero on it. Let the square be defined by the corners (-9,-9) and (9,9). Inside the boundary is a square defined by the corners (-3,-3) and (3,3) at a constant potential of 100. The potential in the region in between can be solved by the techniques described in the text. You must check to see if the point being evaluated is one of the center points with a fixed potential and, if it is, go on to the next point leaving that grid point's potential at 100 as initially defined.



- a) What are the symmetries in this problem?
- b) Using the symmetries, determine the value of the potential inside the region and make a character plot of the full region.
- c) Draw in some of the equipotentials.
- 8. Consider the potential caused by a +1 and -1 point charge enclosed in a square whose edges are held at zero potential. In order to approximate this situation, assume that the potential near the charge is constant and is unaffected by the rest of the region (i.e., assume the potential near the +1 charge is determined by the equation  $k_0 q/r$ ).



Let the corners of the zero potential box be defined by (-5,-5) and (5,5) and the plus and minus charge positions: +1 at (+2.5,0) and -1 at (-2.5,0).

- a) What are the symmetries in the problem?
- b) What can you say about the potential on the y-axis?
- c) How can the solution of Part (b) be used to simplify this problem?
- d) Compute the potential and make an expanded character plot of the potential.
- e) Draw in the equipotential lines.
- f) Compare your results in shape to the simple dipole charge distribution.

## APPENDIX A: TERMINAL PLOTTING

The subroutines in TTYPLO (listed below) allow you to plot a set of curves on your terminal. The subroutines use the letter O variables, so you should not use these variables in your programs. The output from the subroutines is a 5" by 5" x-y plot (assuming 6 lines/inch and 10 characters/inch) with the x-axis across the page and the y-axis up the page.

The range of x values on the plot are set by defining values for X8 = the left side of the plot, X9 = the right side of the plot, Y8 = the bottom of the plot, and Y9 = the top of the plot. The subroutines are called with "GOSUB 9000".

To plot a point on the graph, you define the values of  $X\emptyset$  = the x coordinate and  $Y\emptyset$  = the y coordinate of the point. Also, specify a value for  $Z\emptyset$ , which will be the character plotted at the point  $(X\emptyset,Y\emptyset)$  on the graph. You then call "GOSUB 9100".

The allowed values of  $Z\emptyset$  are 0 through 9. Since these variables  $X8,X9,Y8,Y9,X\emptyset,Y\emptyset,Z\emptyset$  are used in these special ways for the plotting, you should be careful how you use them in your programs.

To produce the final plot on your terminal, call "GOSUB 9200". A sample of the use of TTYPLO follows. The program plots a sine curve (as the character "1").

#### SINE

100 READ X8,X9,Y8,Y9,Z0
110 DATA 0,6.28318,-1,1,1
120 GOSUB 9000
130 FOR X0=X8 TO X9 STEP (X9-X8)/50
140 LET Y0=SIN(X0)
150 GOSUB 9100
160 NEXT X0
170 GOSUB 9200
180 STOP

```
APP-TTYPLO
RUN
SINE
MAX Y= 1
 1111
             11
          1
                         1
       1
                           1
                               1
   1
  1
                                              11
                                                 1111
 MIN Y=-1 MIN X= Ø
                                       MAX X= 6.28318
en d
TTYPLO
9000
      REM INITIALIZE PLOT
       DIM 0[ 300]
9020 FOR 01=1 TO 300
9030 LET 0[01]=0
9040
       NEXT 01
9050
9060
       LET O(52)=52
RETURN
9100
       REM STORE POINTS
9105
9110
9115
       IF (X0-X8)*(X0-X9)>0 THEN 9165
IF (Y0-Y8)*(Y0-Y9)>0 THEN 9165
IF Z0 >= 0 THEN 9125
       LET Z0=0
IF Z0 <= 9 THEN 9135
9120
9125
9130
       IF Z0 <= 9 INEN 9135

LET Z0=9

LET 0(52)=0(52)+1

LET 0(0(52)]=1000*INT(30*(Y0-Y8)/(Y9-Y8)+1.5)

LET 0(0(52)]=0(0(52)]+10*INT(50*(X0-X8)/(X9-X8)+1.5)+Z0
9135
9140
9145
       IF 00521<300 THEN 9165
       PRINT "PART OF THE PICTURE NOW" GOTO 9200
9155
9160
9165
       RETURN
       9200
9210
9220
       FOR 02=31 TO 1 STEP -1
FOR 03=1 TO 51
LET 0(03)=-1
9230
924Ø
925Ø
9260
       NEXT 03
       LET 06=0

FOR 03=53 TO 0[52]

IF 0(03)<0 THEN 9360

IF INT(0[03]/1000) <> 02 THEN 9360

LET 01=0[03]-1000*INT(0[03]/1000)

LET 0[INT(0]/10)]=01-10*INT(0]/10)
9 27 Ø
9280
9300
9310
9320
       IF 06-INT(01/10) THEN 9350
LET 06-INT(01/10)
LET 0[03]=-1
9330
934Ø
935Ø
       NEXT 03
PRINT "Y"
9360
9 37 Ø
       FOR 03=1 TO 06
9380
       GOTO OCO31+2 OF 9400,9420,9440,9460,9480,9500,9520,9540,9560,9580,
939Ø
        9590
```

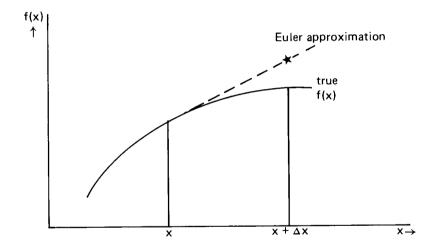
```
9400 PRINT ";
9410 GOTO 9610
9420 PRINT "0";
9430 GOTO 9610
9440 PRINT "1";
9450 GOTO 9610
9440 PRINT "2";
9470 GOTO 9618
9480 PRINT "3";
9490 GOTO 9610
9500 PRINT "4";
9510 GOTO 9610
9520 PRINT "5";
9530 GOTO 9610
9520 PRINT "6";
9530 GOTO 9610
9540 PRINT "6";
9550 GOTO 9610
9540 PRINT "7";
9570 GOTO 9610
9580 PRINT "7";
9570 GOTO 9610
9680 PRINT "8";
9690 PRINT "9";
9610 NEXT O3
9620 PRINT "9";
9610 NEXT O3
9620 PRINT
9630 NEXT O3
9640 PRINT "MIN Y="178;" MIN X="178,"MAX X="179
9660 GOSUB 9000
9660 GOSUB 9000
9660 RETURN
9660 RETURN
```

# APPENDIX B: THE HALF-STEP INTERATIVE INTEGRATION

Numerical methods comprise an entire subject in mathematics. For the moment, all we need to show you is that the half-step method used heavily in the text would seem to give better answers than the simplest approximation (which is called Euler's method). The problem we are discussing is a general one. A physical law often can be stated in terms of the derivative of a function you wish to find; you integrate the differential equation to find the answer.

Consider a general curve for y=f(x); suppose you know the value of y at  $x=x_0$  and you have a way to calculate the derivative of y with respect to x anywhere. The problem is to get as good an approximation to the correct value y=f(x<sub>0</sub>+ $\triangle$ x) as possible. The simplest method (Euler's method) uses the derivative at  $x_0$  and approximates  $f(x_0+\Delta x)$  as  $f(x_0+\Delta x)=f(x_0)+f'(x_0)\Delta x$ .

Euler's method is shown on the sketch by the dashed line. Clearly, the method is correct in the limit as  $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$ . For finite  $\Delta x$  the method produces excessive errors.



The geometrical interpretation of the theorem mathematicians call the Mean Value Theorem says that there is some point on the (continuously differentiable) curve y=f(x) such that the derivative at that point has the same value as the slope of the chord from  $(x_0,f(x_0))$  to  $(x_0+\Delta x,f(x_0+\Delta x))$ . If the theorem told us where that point was, everything would be easy. So-called higher order methods of iterative integration (such as the fourth-order Runge-Kutta method or predictor-corrector method) are better and better ways to approximate this "correct" value of slope.

Our half-step method is based on the fact that, in general, evaluating the derivative near the center of the interval  $[x_0,x_0+\Delta x]$  is better than using a derivative at the end of the interval. In fact, you can show that, if f(x) is a parabola, then a true half-step method is exact. This means that, if you expand f(x) around  $x_0$  in a Taylor series, the half-step method will be correct through terms in  $(\Delta x)^2$ . That is why half-step methods are called "second-order" Runge-Kutta methods.

In several cases used in the text of this unit an approximate half-step method, one that approximates  $x_0+\Delta x/2$  by using the  $\Delta x$  calculated at the last step, is used instead of a true half-step. Practically always, such an approximate  $x_0+\Delta x/2$  lies near the center of the interval  $[x_0,x_0+\Delta x]$  and actually increases the accuracy of the method.

<u>Practice Exercise:</u> Using any of the iterative integration programs from the text, compare Euler's method (which uses the derivative at the point  $x_0$ ) to the half-step method. Show that, for any given step size, the half-step method is more accurate and that, to achieve the same accuracy as the half-step method, a much smaller step size (and hence many more iterations) must be used by Euler's method.

## ANSWERS TO SELECTED EXERCISES

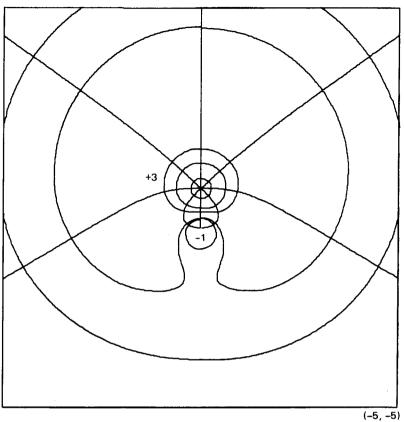
**CHAPTER ONE** 

Exercise 1.

```
(X,Y) OF LEFT-BOTTON & RESHT-TOP?
7 -- 55, -- 05, -- 45, - 05
HEN- & MAX- V7
7 -100, -11
ZZZYYYYXXXXXXXXXXXXXYYYYYZZZ
ALAXXXAAA QAAAA BAAAAAA AAXXXXXXXXX
YYXXXBBBBBTTTTTTTUBBBBBKXXXYY
TXX WE WWWT SSRRABBRRS STUUWW WWXXY
XXWWWWTSR@POCHHNOOPERSTWWWWXX
XXVVVVTSRPONKJHHHJKNO PRSTUVVXX
XVVVITSRINLI EATSTAELLN PRSTUVVVX
XVVVITSGGNI D6000066 DING GSTUVVXX
XWYVUTROOLHB1000001 MLG GRTUVVVX
MUVUTSOMI DEO 00006 DINO OSTUVUX
MUVUTSRPALI EAPSTAEILA PRSTUVUX
xxvvvutsrponkjhhhjkno prstuvvux
XXVVVVVTSRepoonencoperstuuvvvXXXXXXVVVVVXXXX
ALXXXAA AAAAALLLLLLLLAAAAA AAXXXXAX
ZALALXXXXAMAMAMAMAMAMAMAXXXXAAAA.
JALXXXAMAMAMAMAMAMAMAMAXXXAAAA.
ZZZYYYYYXXXXXXXXXXXXXXYYYYYZZZ
```

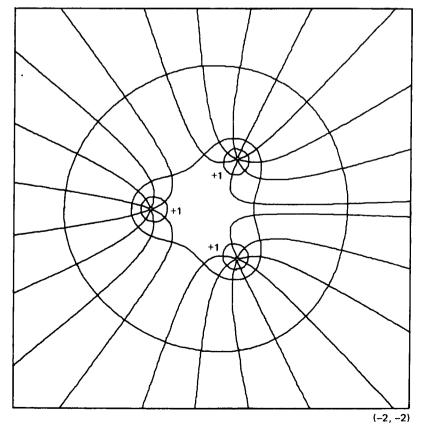
C(.Y) OF LEFT-BOTTON & RECHT-TOP? 7 .45, -.05, .55, .05 MM. 4 MAX. V? 7 40, 200 0111282333344444444333332221110 1122233444555666665555443322211 1223344556777888887776654433221 223445667899 AABBBAA998766544322 234456769 ABB DEEP EE DEBAGE 7 6 5 8 433 3445679 ABBPE I JKLKJ I 67 9BAG 7 6 5 5 43 345679 ABBJM PSWWS PHJ 6 26 AG 7 6 5 43 46678 AGESKOTE BEEZEZ TOKO EGAS 7654 46479 ADPINSEZZZZZZZZSNI PD4976SA 45679 BBCJ OVZZZZZZZZZWOJE DB9 7684 46679 ADPINSEEZEZZZZZ SNI PDA9 7654 46678 ABERKOTZZZZZZZTOKO EGAS 7654 345679 ABEGJH PSVVVS PNJ G EGA9 76543 3445**679** ABDF@IJKLKJ1@FBBA9765543 234456769 ABGDEEP EEDGBA967658433 223445667899 AABBBAA998766544328 1223344556777888887776654433221 119923344455566666555544332221 0111222333344444444433332221110

(X.T) OF LEFT-BOTTON & RIGHT-TOP? 7 - 5, - 5, 5, 5 MEN. & MAX. W? 2222222222233333333333333322222 22222222233333333333333333333333 222222333333334444443333333333 222233333334444444444444333333 2222333333444455555555544443333 222333334445566677666555444333 223333344458676999887665844433 22233334445679 BEEDGA9776554443 223333344444494TVOH DA976554443 223333334443000SEEELFB976654443 223333334444449JTVOH DA9 76554443 22333334445679 BEEDGA9776554443 2223333344455676999887665544433 2222333334445566677666555444333 222233333344445555555544443333 22223333333444444444444333333 222222222233333333333333333222222

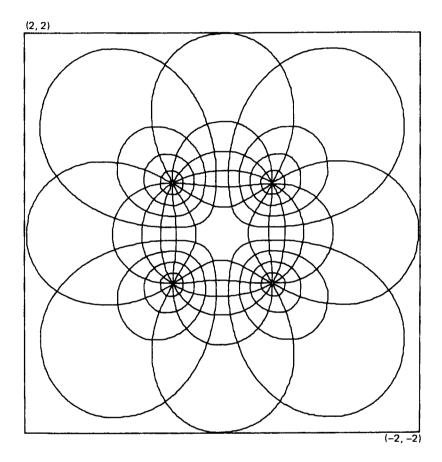


## Exercise 2.

(2, 2)



## Exercise 3.



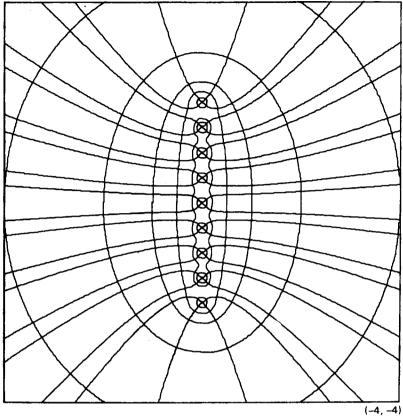
f) The x-z and y-z planes are the zero potential planes.

## Exercise 4.

c) Near enough to each line charge, all other charges can be neglected and the equipotential is that of a single line charge (circular). Far away from all three line charges, the equipotential lines are again circular and appear in value as if they were created by a single line charge with a linear charge density of +4.

#### Exercise 5.

(4, 4)



- c) The point charge model of a line charge and the true line charge differ in three places: (1) at the ends of the nine charges, (2) very close to the line, and (3) very far away from the line segment.
- d) To make a better approximation, increase the number of charge points on the line and make the point charge line segment longer.

## Exercise 6.

c) The plane defined by all points with x = .5 and the plane defined by all points with x = -.5 have zero potential.

## Exercise 7.

- a) A zero potential plane on the y-z plane and the charges +1 at (.5,.5) and -1 at (-.5,+.5).
- b) The x-z and y-z planes. The charge is +1 at (.5,.5).

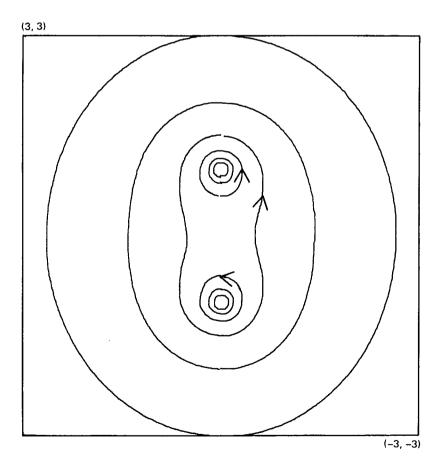
- c) Exercise 6 is (an approximation to) the potential for a point charge at the origin and two conducting planes of zero potential defined by the set of prints with x = -.5 and the set of points with x = .5.
- d) Solve this by using the following charge distribution: The original charges and the image charges -2 at (-.5,0); +1 at (-.5,-.5) and +1 (-.5,-.5).

## Exercise 8.

- c) The potential inside the cylinder is constant.
- d) Gauss's Law is  $\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A} = 4\pi k_0 q$ . Since any surface constructed inside the surface will contain no charge, the field is zero, Outside the cylinder, the field is the same as that of a single line charge with a linear charge density equal to the sum of the line charges used to make the cylinder.

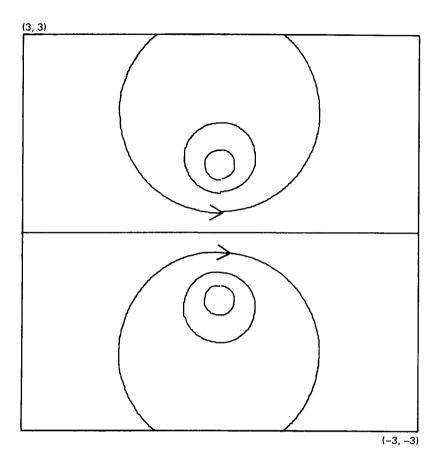
## **CHAPTER TWO**

## Exercise 1.



d) Close to each wire, the field is similar to a single current wire of that wire's current. Far away, the field is similar to a single current-carrying wire with a current given by the (algebraic) sum of the currents (for this case +2 current).

## Exercise 2.

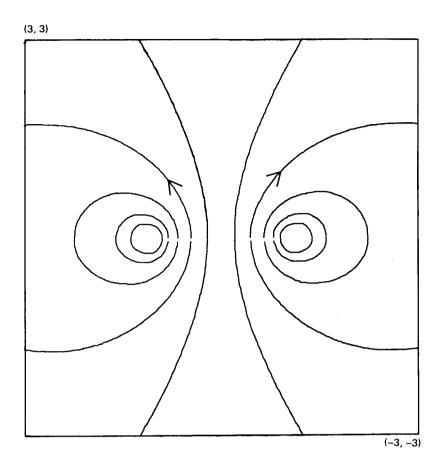


## Exercise 3.

b) On the axis of the loop,

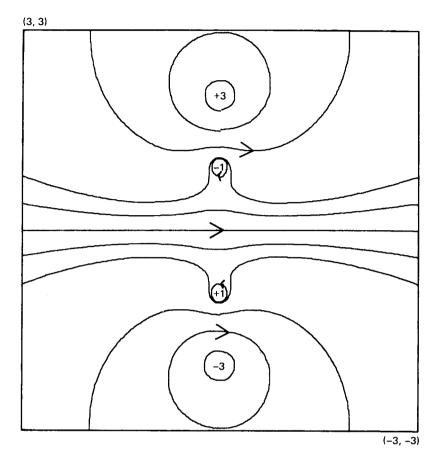
$$B_X = \frac{k_0 2\pi I b^2}{(b^2 + x^2)^{3/2}}, B_Y = B_Z = 0$$

where I is the current, b is the radius of the current loop, and x is the distance along the x-axis. You derive this result by using the Biot-Savart law analytically and noticing that, by symmetry,  $B_{\gamma}$  and  $B_{z}$  are zero. You can integrate the equation for  $dB_{\chi}$ .



c) y	Bx
0	6.28319 E-7
0.3	6.74652 E-7
0.6	8.86302 E-7
0.9	2.46628 E-6
1.2	-6.69063 E-7
1.5	-1.78912 E-7
1.8	-8.13398 E-8

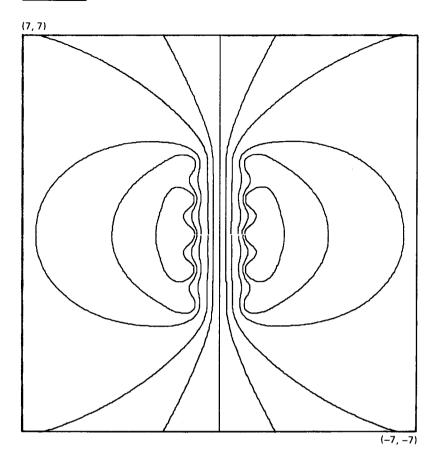
#### Exercise 5.



## Exercise 7.

- a) Inside the field is zero (as well as this approximation will allow). Outside the field is the same as if it were from a single line current of magnitude 16 at the origin.
- b) The Biot-Savart law is  $\oint \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{k} = k_0 I$ . Since any line integral inside the cylinder will contain no current, the B field must be zero. Outside the cylinder, any line integral completely outside will contain all the current. Therefore, since the system is radially symmetric it will be the same magnitude and shape as the field from a single conductor at the origin.
- c) The field inside both and outside both is zero. The field between the two is  $B = 2k_0 I/r$  where r is the radius from the origin. (This agrees with the Biot-Savart law and is similar to the problem of a Toroid.)

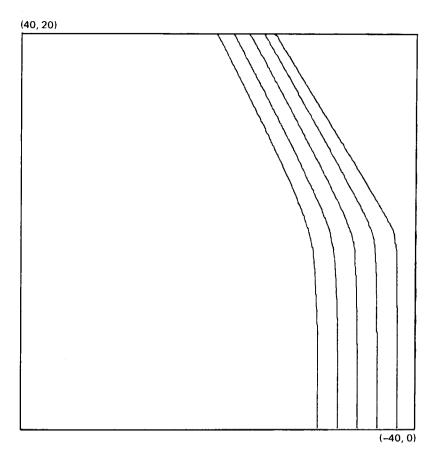
## Exercise 10.



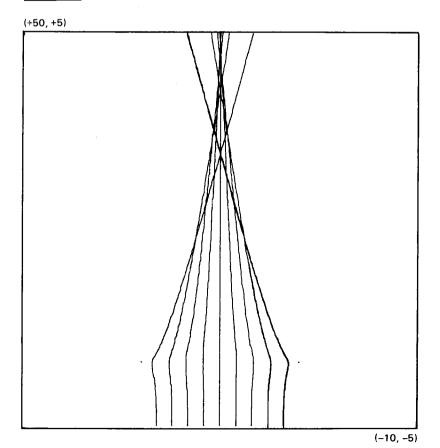
## **CHAPTER THREE**

## Exercise 1.

- a) The trajectory moves away from the line charge but becomes straighter as the positron gets farther away (at constant z velocity).
- c) Note the angle is almost independent of distance but those really close get bent more.
- d) The positron is deflected toward the wire.
- e) Yes, but since the force goes as 1/r (instead of  $1/r^2$ ), the orbits are (generally) more complicated than elliptical (satellite) orbits.



## Exercise 2.



- a) The electron will always be equally repelled by both line charges.

  Therefore, there are never any net forces on the electron and it will remain traveling straight along the z-axis at constant velocity.
- b) The electron will always be equally repelled by both line charges. Initially, the electron slows up because of a net force in the -x direction. If the electron did not have energy enough to pass the origin, it would turn around and go back the negative x-axis. Once the electron passes the origin, it will accelerate out the positive x-axis.
- c) Yes, and in such a way as to cause the x-axis crossing to be at the same point for all of the trajectories near the center. This can be thought of as a two-dimensional electron lens. You can also see the spherical aberration of trajectories near the line charges.

## Exercise 3.

- a) The positron circles both charges but the orbit does not close.
- b) The positron orbits just the charge at (3,0,0) but is perturbed by the field of the other charge.
- c) The positron orbits just the charge at (3,0,0) but is perturbed by the other charge so that its orbit changes.

#### Exercise 5.

- a) The electron's motion is unaffected by the field since the velocity is parallel to the magnetic field.
- b) The electron travels with a constant velocity in the z direction but spirals around an axis parallel to the z-axis.
- c) The electron just spirals around a circle in the x-y plane.
- d) The field collimates the electrons by forcing them to spiral around the magnetic field and not escape in some unwanted direction.

#### Exercise 6.

- a) The positron when traveling into the converging field starts to travel in the y+z direction. Eventually, all of the positron's velocity is gone, and the positron is just traveling in the y-z plane. Then the positron starts coming back out.
- b) It decreases to zero, then changes direction.
- c) Energy is conserved, V<sup>2</sup> stays constant.

#### Exercise 7.

- b) If the charge is positive, then the positron with  $V_X > |E|/|B|$  will move in the +y direction. When  $V_X < |E|/|B|$ , the positron will move in the -y direction. If the charge is an electron (a negative charge), the results are just reversed.
- c) A positively charged particle gets accelerated in the x direction (by  $\overrightarrow{V_Y \times B_Z}$ ). This acceleration then causes the velocity,  $V_X$ , to grow which, in turn, creates an increase in  $V_Y$ . If the charge is negative,  $V_X$  decreases and  $V_Y$  increases.
- d) The z motion is unaffected. The xy motion is just that already discussed.
- e) If there is no change in velocity of the particle, the forces due to E and B must be equal.

$$\overrightarrow{qE} = \overrightarrow{qVxB}$$

$$E_y = V_x B_z$$

$$V_x = E_y/B_z$$
 with no requirements on  $V_z$ 

## Exercise 9.

$$\vec{a} = \vec{F}/m$$

$$\vec{V} = \vec{V}_{(initial)} + \vec{a}t$$

$$\overrightarrow{S} = \overrightarrow{S}(initial) + \overrightarrow{V}(initial) t + 1/2 \overrightarrow{a}t^2$$

since

$$\dot{a} = a_V = Eq/m$$

$$S_V = S_{V(initial)} + V_{V(initial)} t + (1/2)(Eq/m) t^2$$

$$S_x = S_{v(initial)} + V_{x(initial)} t$$

$$S_z = S_{z(initial)} + V_{z(initial)} t$$

For the example in the text:

The initial conditions are  $S_x = S_y = S_z = 0$  and initial velocities are  $V_y = V_z = 0$  and  $V_x = 4$ 

$$S_y = 1/2 E q/m t^2 = 1/2 t^2$$

$$S_x = 4t$$

$$S_x = 0$$

## Exercise 10.

a) 
$$r = \frac{mV}{q|\vec{B}|} = \frac{V}{B}$$

when |B| is measured in units of q/m.

b) 
$$T = \frac{1}{f} = \frac{2\pi m}{q|\vec{B}|} = \frac{2\pi}{B}$$

in normalized units.

## **CHAPTER FOUR**

#### Exercise 1.

- a) The surface integral equals +1 times the length of the box along the z-axis. The line integral is zero.
- b) The surface integral equals +2 times the length of the box along the z-axis. The line integral is zero.
- c & d) Both the surface and line integrals are zero.

#### Exercise 2.

- a) The surface integral is zero. The line integral is +1 and independent of the contour.
- b) The surface integral is zero. The line integral is +2 and independent of the contour.
- c & d) Both the surface and line integrals are zero.

## Exercise 3.

- a) The surface integral is +3 times the length of the box along the z-axis. The line integral is zero.
- b) The surface integral is +3 times the length of the box along the z-axis. The line integral is 2.
- c & d) Both the surface and line integrals are zero.

#### Exercise 4.

- a) 8. The surface integral is +1 times the total area of the box perpendicular to the z-axis.
- b) It is caused by a plane of charge along the x-y axis.
- c) zero

## Exercise 5.

- a) zero
- c) 0, 4, 0
- d) It is caused by a plane (defined by the y-z plane) of current traveling in the y direction.

## Exercise 6.

- b) zero
- c)  $\oint \overrightarrow{F} \cdot d\overrightarrow{\ell} = \oint r f(r) \cdot d\overrightarrow{\ell}$

If we pick any circle around the origin, then  $\hat{r} \perp \overrightarrow{d\ell}$ . Therefore the integral is zero.

## Exercise 7.

- a) zero
- b) There are no sources or sinks for the fluid, that is, there are no places where fluid is being created or destroyed.
- c) zero
- d) -.75

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

## Exercise 1.

a)

c) The pattern is symmetric across the x-axis (i.e., across the line joining the +10 and +20 potential points.)

## Exercise 2.

a)

. (	97	TERAT	I ON S	= 186							
		0				0	0	0	0	0	0
1	2	1 - 1	0.5	0- 1	0	0- 1	0.3	0.5	1.6	2.6	4
4	4	2-4	1-3	0-6	0.3	0,4	0.9	1.9	3.4	5.4	8
(	6	3.7	2.1	1. 1	0.7	0.5	1.6	3	5. 1	5 · 1	12
6	3	4.9	2.5	1.5	1	1.2	2-1	3.5	6. 5	10.5	16
	10	5.6	3. 1	1.7	1.1	1.3	2.3	4.1	7.2	11.9	80
	3	4.9	2.5	1.5	1	1.2	2.1	3.5	6.5	10.5	16
(	5	3.7	<b>2-</b> I	1-1	0.7	0.5	1.6	3	5.1	5.1	12
4	4	2.4	1.3	0.6	0-3	0-4	0.9	1.9	3.4	5. 4	8
1	2	1-1	0-5	0- 1	0	0- 1	0.3	0-8	1-6	2.6	4
	D	0	0	0	a	0	0	0	6	0	0

b) The pattern is symmetric across the x-axis (i.e., across the line joining the +10 and +20 potential points.)

## Exercise 5.

a) The symmetries are along the x- and y-axes and also along the two diagonals of the square.

```
b)

#F ITERATIONS = 190

1     1-8

2     2-7     3-4

3     3-5     4-1     4-6

4     4-4     4-8     5-2     5-6

5     5-2     5-4     5-7     3-9     6-2

6     6     6-1     6-2     6-3     6-5     6-6

7     6-8     6-7     6-6     6-7     6-9     6-9

8     7-6     7-2     7     6-9     6-9     7     7

9     8-2     7-6     7-3     7-1     7     3     7     7-1
```

## Exercise 6.

a) The symmetries are along the x- and y-axes and also along the two diagonals of the square.

## Exercise 7.

a) The symmetries are along the x- and y-axes and also along the two diagonals of the square.

									(9,9)
									0
								2	0
							9	5	0
						21	14	7	0
					37	27	18	9	0
				60	46	34	22	11	0
			100	73	55	39	26	13	0
		100	100	78	59	43	28	14	0
	100	100	100	80	62	45	29	14	0
100	100	100	100	81	62	46	30	15	0
(0,0)									(9,0)

## Exercise 8.

- a) The pattern is symmetric across the x-axis.
- b) The potential along the y-axis is zero.
- c) Since we know the potential along the y-axis is zero, we can use the axis as one of the boundaries to the problem. In this way, the region to be solved only contains one charge.